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Some U.S. Officials Doubt Legality of Role in Nicaragua

By Leslie H. Gelb

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — High-ranking State Department officials raised questions in White House meetings last week about the legality of U.S. involvement in covert military operations against Nicaragua, according to Reagan administration officials.

By law, the administration is barred from taking any action "for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Nicaragua."

The questions were raised by policymakers and legal experts in the department. Their point was said to be that, contrary to law and to agreed administration policy, U.S. support for guerrilla actions in Nicaragua had gone beyond efforts to interdict supplies from Nicaragua to rebels in El Salvador and could be seen as intended to overthrow the Sandinist government.

These concerns, along with more vigorous charges by some senators, were brought to President Ronald Reagan's attention at two White House meetings last week. But, according to administration officials, no decisions were made to curtail the operations.

The concern in the State Department seems to have been provoked by reports about covert operations in Nicaragua and warnings by several senators over possible violations of the law.

The officials confirmed a report last week that the Central Intelligence Agency and the U.S. military were directly involved in planning, arming and advising paramilitary forces based in Honduras and were providing them with intelligence data.

They said the State Department officials have not argued that the CIA and the military are deliberately acting contrary to policy. Rather, they have suggested that in carrying out the policy at this stage, it is almost impossible not to cross the bounds of legality.

The policy approved by Mr. Reagan, the officials said, was to

interdict supplies from Nicaragua to Salvadoran guerrillas, to attack Cuban and the Cuban "infrastructure" in Nicaragua and, in general, to increase the costs to Nicaragua of backing the insurgency in El Salvador.

Another complicating factor, according to the officials, involves attempts to control the operations of the contras, as the anti-Sandinist guerrillas call themselves.

"The contras' aims and actions may not be the same as ours," a key administration official said.

The prohibition against efforts to overthrow the Nicaraguan government is laid out in an amendment to a catchall appropriations bill approved by Congress last December.

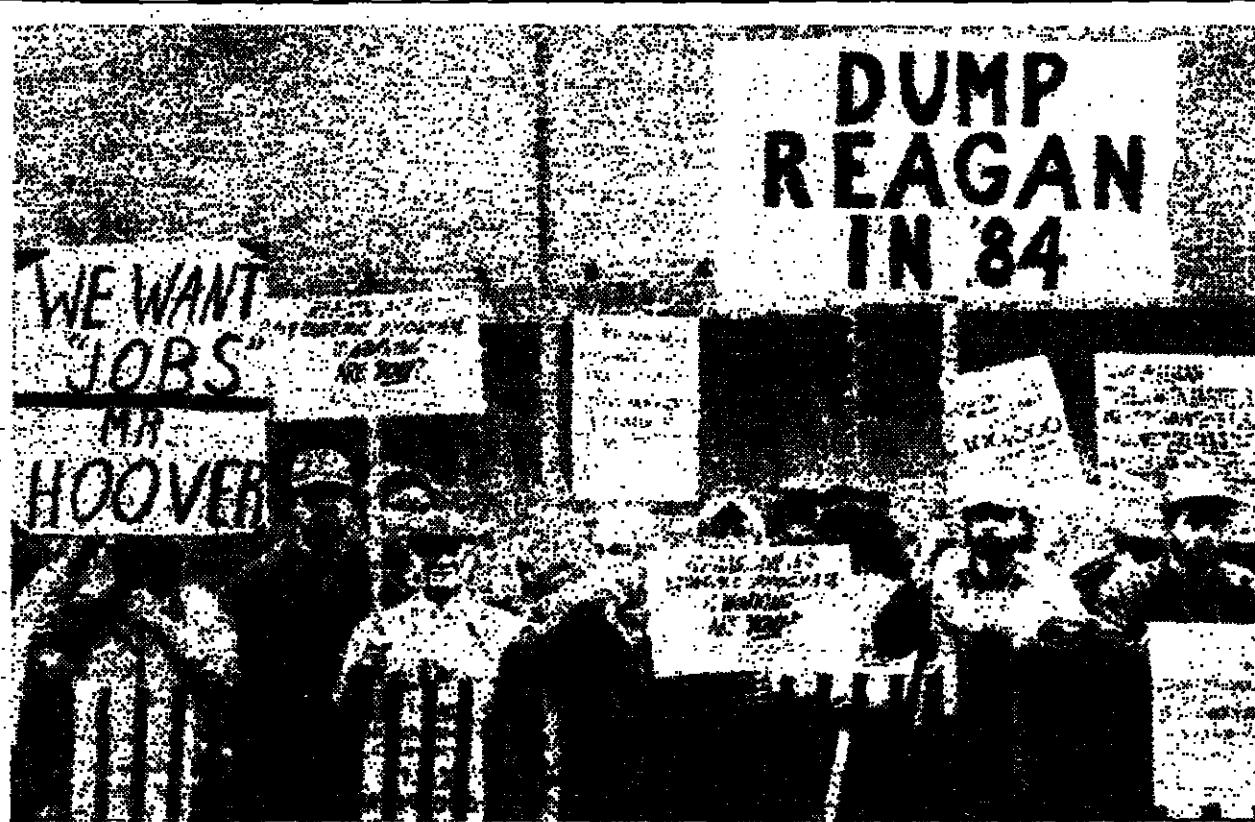
"None of the funds provided in this act," it says, "may be used by the Central Intelligence Agency or the Department of Defense to furnish military equipment, military training or advice, or other support for military activities, to any group or individual, not part of the country's armed forces, for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Nicaragua or provoking a military exchange between Nicaragua and Honduras."

Some CIA officials are also said to have expressed concern that the covert operations might have gone beyond the limitations stated in presidential documents and in intelligence briefings to congressional committees. By law, the president is required to notify House and Senate intelligence panels of covert actions.

That was last done in December 1981 in a document authorizing "the support and conduct" of "political and paramilitary operations against Cubans and Cuban supply lines" in Nicaragua and elsewhere in Central America.

The finding, as the document is called, said nothing about any actions against the Nicaraguan government itself. Based on this finding, the committee secretly in

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ANGRY WELCOME — President Reagan attracted a crowd of demonstrators when he went to Pittsburgh to speak at a conference on finding ways to retrain unemployed steelworkers and others for new jobs. Page 3.

U.S. Says It Offered Strategic Weapon Cuts

By Hedrick Smith

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — During the latest round of strategic arms talks, the United States offered to limit the number of long-range bombers and airborne cruise missiles while the Soviet Union called for a ban on deployment of all kinds of cruise missiles, administration officials reported.

Officials cited the proposals Wednesday as evidence of movement in the Geneva negotiations. Soviet negotiators and some critics in the United States have charged that the Reagan administration's original package last July focused entirely on ballistic missiles and ignored other categories of strategic weapons.

Senator Alan Cranston, a California Democrat who has announced his candidacy for the presidency, charged Wednesday

that the administration had "bumbled and blown the opportunity to have significant arms control agreements."

The United States called for a ceiling of 400 intercontinental bombers and proposed a complex formula on cruise missiles. The Soviet Union has large ballistic missile forces whereas the United States has a lead in bombers and cruise missiles.

Administration officials also disclosed that Edward L. Rowley, the chief U.S. strategic arms negotiator, had offered a draft treaty for confidence-building measures such as advance notice of ballistic missile launches and of military exercises involving strategic forces to reduce the risks of miscalculation and accidental nuclear war.

Details of the strategic arms talks came to light as Mr. Rowley and Paul H. Nitze, who heads a

parallel negotiating team dealing with medium-range missiles, met for three hours behind closed doors with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

After the session, Senator Charles L. Percy, the Illinois Republican who is the committee chairman, said, "It does not appear in the foreseeable future that there is a chance for an agreement in either of the two negotiations. He said he believed the 'total strategy' of Moscow was to block progress in the talks.

Committee members had wanted to hear from Mr. Rowley in connection with a memorandum on personnel matters that he had supplied to Kenneth L. Adelman, President Ronald Reagan's nominee to head the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

In related developments: • Defense Secretary Caspar W.

Weinberger said the Soviet Union "may very well have" violated the 1979 strategic arms agreement by testing two types of new missiles in the last six months. The agreement, he said, permits tests of only one new missile. But he stopped short of a direct charge of violation.

• William Jackson, former director of the general advisory committee on arms control under President Jimmy Carter, said that earlier arms control treaties on offensive and defensive weapons were being undermined by both the Soviet Union and United States.

• Intelligence officials said the Soviet Union had developed a new cruise missile, designated the SSCX-4, with a range of 1,900 miles (3,000 kilometers), according to The Associated Press.

Charges and countercharges on arms issues have mounted steadily (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

China Cancels Cultural Ties to U.S. in Protest

By Michael Parks

Los Angeles Times Service

BEIJING — China announced Thursday that it was canceling all official cultural and athletic exchanges with the United States, in retaliation for the U.S. decision to grant political asylum to a Chinese tennis star.

Ding Gu, the Culture Ministry's director of cultural exchange, said the action Monday by the Reagan administration was a "serious political incident" that had "impaired the normal atmosphere for Sino-American cultural exchanges."

The activities canceled include a U.S. film festival set for July in Beijing, a visit next month by the Juilliard String Quartet and an exhibition of paintings from the Brooklyn Museum of Art in the fall.

"The Chinese government has no choice" but to cancel the exchanges, Mr. Ding told U.S. diplomats summoned Thursday to the Culture Ministry, according to the Xinhua press agency. Negotiations for a new cultural agreement were also canceled.

Reciprocal Chinese activities, including a film week, two art exhibitions, a tour by a top performing arts group and a visit by a high-ranking cultural delegation to the United States, were also canceled, along with planned exchanges between journalists, publishers and officials of Voice of America and Radio Beijing.

The All China Sports Federation announced it was canceling Chinese participation in 10 athletic events involving the United States, most of them warm-ups for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

After the Chinese announcement Thursday, a U.S. Embassy spokesman said, "The embassy deeply regrets the Chinese overreaction to the case of Miss Hu Na," the 19-year-old tennis player. He declined to comment further.

In Washington, a White House spokesman expressed hope that the dispute would not seriously disturb relations between the two countries. Reuters reported.

"Good relations between the United States and China are a benefit to both sides, and it is important that we view our differences in the perspective of the broader bilateral relationship," said the spokesman. Larry M. Speakes. He would not comment directly on the cancellation of cultural exchanges. Scientific and academic exchanges between the two countries

are covered by separate agreements and were unaffected by Thursday's announcements. U.S. officials said it seemed unlikely that the nearly 10,000 Chinese students in the United States would be called home or that the 300 Americans studying in China would be forced to leave.

The Chinese decision also does not appear to affect unofficial cultural exchanges, such as the current rehearsal of the American play "Death of a Salesman" under its author, Arthur Miller.

The Chinese action had been expected following Beijing's angry protests earlier this week over the U.S. decision to grant asylum to Miss Hu. She defected in July while playing in a tennis tournament in California, saying she feared political persecution for refusing to join the Communist Party if she were forced to return to China.

The U.S. ambassador in Beijing, Arthur W. Hummel Jr., was summoned Wednesday to the Foreign Ministry and told that China viewed the U.S. action as a serious infringement of its sovereignty, as interference in its internal affairs and as a deliberate insult to the Chinese people.

"This is a grave political incident long premeditated and deliberately created by the United States," a Foreign Ministry statement said. It accused the Reagan administration of "conniving" with supporters of the Taiwan government to "entice and coerce" Miss Hu to defect.

Miss Hu's family appealed again Thursday for her to return. "My daughter has been brought up with the loving care of the government and the Communist Party," her father, Hu Yunfu, told Xinhua. "Political persecution of her is simply out of the question."

The Chinese action, coupled with its tough protest, was by far the most decisive step Beijing has taken to show its growing anger with the Reagan administration.

Beijing had largely confined itself to angry statements and occasional threats that relations would be downgraded if Washington continued to pursue certain policies, particularly arms sales to Taipei. When the Reagan administration imposed restrictions on Chinese textile sales in the United States in January, however, Beijing said it would buy no more American cotton, soybeans or synthetic fibers. But these were items it had largely stopped purchasing.

Reagan Approved Policy to Block Evolution of 'Cuba-Model States'

By Raymond Bonner

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — At a meeting with his senior foreign policy advisers last April, President Ronald Reagan approved a policy with the goal of preventing a "proliferation of Cuba-model states" in Central America that could threaten the United States militarily and economically.

According to a highly classified document summarizing the meeting, the group proposed both covert and political programs to keep the Sandinist government in Nicaragua from "exporting revolution" to El Salvador and to strengthen pro-U.S. elements in El Salvador and Guatemala.

In addition to covert activities designed to put pressure on Nicaragua, the group expressed approval of a military coup that overthrew an elected government in Guatemala, a beginning of covert activities in that country against anti-government forces and efforts to keep Mexico "isolated" on Central American issues.

The covert activities in the region, according to the memorandum, would be carried out pursuant to National Security Decision Directive 17, which was the president's approval in November 1981 of a plan for covert activities in Central America, particularly against Nicaragua.

The group also discussed making a "concerted effort" to increase factional strife among guerrilla groups and their political allies in El Salvador. It proposed stepping

up efforts to "co-opt" congressional efforts to link approval of aid to the promotion of talks between the warring sides in the region.

The document also said that at the time of the meeting, which was shortly after the administration's budget request for the fiscal year 1983 had been submitted, the group sought for the region would "fall about \$300 million short" of what was needed.

It was recommended in the document that the shortfall not be mentioned for several months. Last month, Mr. Reagan asked for \$278 million more in economic and military aid for Central America for the 1983 fiscal year, which began Oct. 1.

News accounts in recent months have reported details of the covert activities against the Nicaraguan government from bases in Honduras, which are supported by the administration and are alluded to in the memorandum.

The document also made these points:

• The government in Nicaragua was "under increased pressure as a result of our covert efforts," and the country's isolation was increasing.

• The Central Intelligence Agency should be provided with \$2.5 million "in order that an expanded program in Guatemala be initiated," including arms interdiction.

• The administration's policies were facing "serious difficulties" with public and congressional opinion in the United States while

"international opinion, especially in Europe and Mexico, continues to work against our policies."

• Greater public and economic pressure should be applied to Cuba — the public pressure by using the "international Cuban community to carry the message," the economic by a "quantum tightening of economic embargo."

Bearing the title, "United States Policy in Central America and Cuba Through F.Y. '84, Summary Paper," the document provides insights into the policymaking analysis at the highest levels of the government.

According to the memorandum, the policymakers concluded that the United States has "a vital interest in not allowing the proliferation of Cuba-model states which would provide platforms for subversion, compromise vital sea-lanes and pose a direct military threat at or near our borders."

One of the group's assumptions was that there would be a "gradual upturn in world economy with resulting improvements in balance of payments and domestic economies" in Central America and the Caribbean basin.

The group foresaw an improvement in the Salvadoran Army that would put "the guerrillas increasingly on the defensive" and "created friction between guerrilla groups and guerrilla supporters."

That prediction appears not to have been validated. In recent months, administration officials have expressed concern about the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)



New Ascent by King Kong Fails

Efforts went awry Thursday to raise an eight-story replica of King Kong to the top of the Empire State Building. The project, designed to mark the 50th anniversary of the movie about the giant, developed problems when straps used to position the balloon were assembled out of sequence. The gorilla's head is visible, above, near the base of the building's mooring mast. At left, the partially inflated balloon hangs from the mast. Officials said another attempt will be made later after the balloon is repaired.

Harvard Asks Walesa To Address Graduates

By Charles D. Sherman

International Herald Tribune

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Lech Walesa, the leader of the outlawed Polish trade union Solidarity, has been invited to give Harvard University's commencement address June 9, university officials said Thursday.

The university officials said he had accepted, but Mr. Walesa told United Press International from his home in Gdansk that he did not plan to accept the invitation because he felt he would not be permitted to return to Poland if he left.

Robin Schmidt, Harvard's vice president for government and community affairs, said the university was announcing its invitation to Mr. Walesa "in the hope of bringing pressure on the Polish government."

Harvard has a tradition of not identifying its chief commencement speaker until graduation day. A source close to the university administration said Mr. Walesa had told "a Harvard envoy" that the "more publicity, the greater the chance he would have of coming."

The university contacted Mr. Walesa by letter with the help of Stanislaw Baranczak, a professor of Polish literature at Harvard, who came to the United States in 1981 from Poland. Professor Baranczak is a founder of KOR, the Committee for Worker's Self-Defense, which was founded by Polish intellectuals in 1976 and dissolved in 1981 after Solidarity became prominent.

"Harvard expected difficulties for Walesa with his passport," he said, "and they're announcing this to create pressure on the Polish government. Walesa's coming to Harvard would be a very important event. It would be the first time he has been in the West since martial law and his release from detention."

Professor Baranczak agreed that Mr. Walesa would be cautious about leaving Poland. "He would not take his family," he said, "so it would be harder for the authorities to stop him from coming back. If he traveled with his family, the government could close the border to him. As a normal tourist, the government probably wouldn't give him a passport."

In recent weeks, the Polish authorities have demanded that Mr. Walesa pay taxes and a fine on a minibus that his family received as a gift from an unidentified Western donor.

Recent commencement speakers at Harvard have included Thomas J. Watson Jr., former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union and president of the International Business Machines Corp., in 1981; Cyrus R. Vance, former U.S. secretary of state, in 1980; Helmut Schmidt, former chancellor of West Germany, in 1979; and Alexander I. Solzhenitsyn, the Soviet writer, in 1978.

Harvard's committee on honorary degrees, comprising faculty members and alumni, selects the speakers.

■ "No, I'm Not Going" Mr. Walesa told UPI in a telephone interview from his home in Gdansk: "No, I am not going." adding, "This situation is so unstable that I cannot go without being sure whether I can come back or not."

Mr. Walesa said he had prepared a message to be read at Harvard if he were unable to appear there.

Luxembourg Diplomat Using Music as Passport to Travel, Acclaim



Adrien F.J. Meisch, Luxembourg's U.S. ambassador.

By Irvin Molotsky

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — When Adrien F.J. Meisch, the ambassador from Luxembourg, ends a nine-year stint in the United States this month, the diplomatic tools of the trade that he will pack up will include not only his pin-striped trousers but also two grand pianos.

The pianos have served to make the embassy of his tiny country one of the most popular in Washington. And his concert-quality skill at playing them — he prefers Beethoven and Brahms — has served as a passport that has allowed him to travel to 49 states.

"I don't think it's enough to be in Washington or New York City to know the United States," said Mr. Meisch, 52, whose next diplomatic post is West Germany. "You also have to go to the West Coast and to the South to learn what the people are thinking."

Since his country does not provide the embassy with enough money for widespread travel, the ambassador uses the piano as his ticket. He accepts concert dates, usually for such nonprofit events as benefits and pension fund galas, and lets the sponsors pay for his transportation, but nothing more.

While in a town, he meets with the governor or the mayor or a bank president, conveying information about Luxembourg. Finally, he tries to arrange for a lecture at the local university, usually speaking on his specialty: Soviet relations. "Luxembourg is not enough," he confessed.

Using this travel formula, plus vacation trips with his family, Mr. Meisch has visited every state except Alabama.

Music-making also helped Ambassador Meisch at his previous post, Moscow, where he met such virtuosos as the pianist Sviatoslav Richter and the cellist Mstislav Rostropovich.

Mr. Rostropovich has since emigrated from the Soviet Union and now lives in Washington, where he is conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra. Sometimes he joins Mr. Meisch and others to play chamber music in the Luxembourg Embassy, thereby helping the embassy draw members of the cabinet, Congress and Supreme Court.

Ambassador Meisch, whose American-born wife, Candace, is also a pianist, has studied with Lilli Kraus, whom he considers today's foremost Mozart performer. Recently, Miss Kraus was scheduled to play a Mozart concerto with the

Washington Chamber Orchestra and then join the ambassador in the Mozart Concerto in E Flat Major for Two Pianos (K. 365). But she had to cancel to have eye surgery.

On two weeks' notice, the ambassador learned the Mozart Concerto in A Major (K. 488), which he had not played in many years, and substituted in the best show-must-go-on tradition. One critic found that Mr. Meisch displayed "a deep musical sensibility, with a touch of poetry."

During the playing, the ambassador, who has a gift that betrays too many diplomatic dinners, looked more like the reserved bank president he has visited from coast to coast than the modern-day virtuoso who flail about the keyboard as though their arms are being lifted on wings of song.

When the performance was over, he refused to accept the \$5,000 fee that would have gone to Miss Kraus, saying, "I do not go out moonlighting."

The ambassador's next post, Bonn, is generally regarded as the most important assignment in Luxembourg's foreign service. Mr. Meisch intends to continue his piano playing there. "In Germany," he said, "music is written with a capital M."

INSIDE

■ Henry A. Kissinger conferred with a senior aide to Yasser Arafat several months ago in a secret meeting that has complicated efforts for a Middle East settlement. Page 2.

BUSINESS/FINANCE ■ The Soviet Union and its nine principal allies are reportedly preparing for their first economic summit meeting in 12 years. Page 11.

SPORTS ■ France has told the country's amateur sporting federations to break off relations with South Africa. Page 15.

WEEKEND ■ Michael Ende is carrying on the German tradition in the literature of fantasy, a field that is again popular. Page 7W.

Kissinger Meeting With PLO Aide Is Said to Complicate Mideast Talks

By Jim Hoagland
Washington Post Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger conferred with a senior aide to Yasser Arafat in Morocco several months ago in a secret meeting that has become a complicating factor in the Reagan administration's drive for a Middle East peace settlement.

U.S. officials who confirmed the encounter Wednesday denied vehemently that Mr. Kissinger had sought to set up a "back channel" with the Palestine Liberation Organization that would have undercut U.S. efforts to bring Mr. Arafat, who heads the PLO, and King Hussein of Jordan together on a formula allowing the king to enter peace negotiations with Israel.

Mr. Kissinger acknowledged Wednesday that he had met for half an hour with Ahmed Dajani, a member of the PLO executive committee, in Rabat, Morocco, in November. But he said he was not aware before the meeting that Mr. Dajani was a PLO official.

Other sources said that the meeting was arranged by King Hassan II of Morocco with the involvement of the U.S. ambassador to Morocco, Joseph Reed. Mr. Reed,

like Mr. Kissinger, has long been a close associate of David Rockefeller, the New York banker, and King Hassan claims close ties to all three men.

The long-delayed talks between Mr. Arafat and King Hussein on a negotiating formula began last weekend in Amman and have reached a critical point, Arab and U.S. sources said Wednesday. Mr. Arafat is due to return to Amman later this week for a final negotiating session.

As secretary of state, Mr. Kissinger was responsible for the pledge made to Israel in 1975 that the United States would have no formal contacts with the PLO until the organization accepted Israel's right to exist and accepted UN Security Council Resolution 242. This resolution calls for Israel to return territories occupied in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war in return for a peace settlement.

The PLO has repeatedly sought to break through Mr. Kissinger's commitment and establish direct contacts with the United States.

Sources said the Kissinger-Dajani meeting appeared to Mr. Arafat to hold out hopes that he could achieve that goal without having to make a deal with King Hussein. They said the PLO leader

began in February to delay the negotiations with King Hussein.

At about the same time, some of Mr. Arafat's aides began raising the possibility that the PLO could negotiate directly with Israel.

The delay was especially troubling for King Hussein, who had set March as a deadline for his decision on accepting or rejecting President Ronald Reagan's peace initiative. When reports of the meeting in Morocco reached him, King Hussein demanded an explanation from the Reagan administration, and it was delivered to him in mid-March during a trip to London, sources said.

Philip C. Habib, Mr. Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East, reportedly told the king that the Reagan administration had nothing to do with the Kissinger-Dajani discussion.

"Whatever the intention of that meeting, the reports of it and the impression that Kissinger would attempt to set up future meetings that would clear the way for a PLO-U.S. dialogue put a lot of static on the face at a crucial moment," an Arab official said.

A State Department official agreed that the reports "appeared to put the thing off the tracks for awhile." State Department officials

repeatedly telephoned The Washington Post on Wednesday, emphasizing that disclosure of the meeting now could affect the delicate negotiations in Amman.

The United States and King Hussein are known to be resisting Mr. Arafat's demands that an agreement be taken to a new Arab summit conference to be held in Morocco in mid-April, before any announcement is made.

These State Department officials emphasized their view that Mr. Kissinger had not acted improperly and that he had made a full private report to the administration after the meeting.

Mr. Dajani, a writer and historian who lives in Cairo and has served as Mr. Arafat's spokesman to the European Community, has been at Mr. Arafat's side during the talks in Amman this week.

Asked about his contact with Mr. Kissinger, Mr. Dajani declined to comment.

Mr. Kissinger arrived in Morocco on Nov. 28 to attend a meeting of the American-Moroccan Foundation, a private organization. He is co-chairman of the foundation's board, and Mr. Rockefeller is chairman of its advisory council.

Mr. Kissinger said in a telephone interview Wednesday that he

thought Mr. Dajani, whom he knew to be a Palestinian, was a member of King Hassan's Moroccan Academy, a group of Arab intellectuals that was meeting at the time in Rabat.

Mr. Kissinger reported the contents of his talk with Mr. Dajani to Mr. Habib, who was also in Rabat that day, and subsequently to the State Department in writing.

At the time of the meeting, Mr. Dajani had already been appointed Mr. Arafat's chief delegate on the Palestinian-Jordanian commission that worked out the conditions for the negotiations between Mr. Arafat and King Hussein.

President Ronald Reagan's proposal, which calls for negotiations to create a Palestinian entity on the West Bank and in Gaza that would be associated with Jordan, has been rejected by Israel.

King Hussein has made it clear that he will not participate in the Reagan initiative without an endorsement from the PLO. Mr. Arafat has maintained a deliberate ambiguity about the Reagan plan, though his chief criticism of it, that it rejects an independent Palestinian state, seems to have become sharper in recent weeks.

State Department officials emphasized Wednesday that Mr. Kissinger was playing no formal

role for the administration. He is due to leave shortly on another private trip to the Middle East.

■ Kissinger Confirms Meeting

Mr. Kissinger confirmed Thursday that he had met with Mr. Dajani, but he called their talk "an inconsequential conversation." The Associated Press reported from Washington.

Interviewed on television, Mr. Kissinger said that during the session of the American-Moroccan Foundation in Rabat, "Somebody pointed him out to me and said, 'Can you not talk to a Palestinian in this context?' I walked up to him and said, 'Let's have a cup of coffee.'" Mr. Kissinger said the exchange was witnessed by 50 people and was far from secret.

He said Mr. Dajani "told me his familiar position of why he objected to an agreement that I had made in which we would not talk to the PLO." The former secretary of state said he simply explained to Mr. Dajani why the agreement was made.

"I don't regret the meeting," he continued. "It was an inconsequential conversation."

Mr. Kissinger also said he believed there was a good chance King Hussein would join the peace negotiations.

WORLD BRIEFS

Talks on Gulf Oil Spill Suspended

KUWAIT (UPI) — An emergency meeting of Gulf states broke up Thursday without agreement on how to cope with the potentially disastrous oil spill threatening their coasts and cities.

Although cabinet ministers and ambassadors of the eight Gulf states, including Iran and Iraq, convened a formal meeting of a Gulf environmental body after 48 hours of consultations, the delegates suspended their talks after a single session.

A Kuwaiti official said the talks, which reportedly involved eight heads of states, were suspended to permit the representatives to conduct "consultations with their governments."

Ian Smith Granted U.K. Passport

LONDON (AP) — Ian Smith, who as prime minister of the colony of Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, defied Britain for 15 years, has been granted a British passport, according to the British High Commission in Harare.

Mr. Smith, 63, who was born in the colony, is entitled to the passport because his father, a Scots-born butcher who settled in Rhodesia in 1898, was born in Britain, the commission said Wednesday.

In a BBC radio interview from Zimbabwe Thursday, Mr. Smith said he applied for the passport to go to South Africa for medical treatment after Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's government twice refused to return his Zimbabwean passport, which had been seized. He added he would not use his new papers to flee the country. "I don't believe in running away from problems — and we have big problems here as far as the white community is concerned," he said.

Solidarity Activist to Go on Trial

WARSAW (Reuters) — Edmund Baluka, an activist of the banned Solidarity trade union who had close ties with Polish emigre groups in France, goes on trial Monday on charges of subversion, an official newspaper said Thursday.

The youth daily Sztandar Mlodych said Mr. Baluka would be tried by a military court in Bydgoszcz. It said he was linked with "anti-communist" emigre organizations and had published a magazine, Sztasz (Hornet), "which slandered Poland," and smuggled it into the country.

Mr. Baluka left Poland in 1973, after complaining of official harassment after his involvement in worker protests in 1970, and settled in Paris. The indictment said he returned illegally to Poland in 1981. He was detained after the imposition of martial law in December 1981.

South Africa Allows Pacifist Status

JOHANNESBURG (NYT) — South Africa's Parliament has enacted legislation that recognizes for the first time the status of conscientious objector to military service.

Although the new legislation is not cast in racial terms, it will apply in existing circumstances only to whites, for only whites are now subject to compulsory military service.

The bill, which is due to be signed into law soon, provides harsh penalties for those who refuse to serve for moral or political reasons that fall outside its narrow definition of conscientious objection. Essentially, to achieve the status, a draftee has to claim that he objects to all war on religious grounds and would refuse to bear arms for any army anywhere.

Leaders of PLO Continue Talks

KUWAIT (Reuters) — The chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasser Arafat, and other Palestinian officials continued talks here Thursday on whether to let King Hussein of Jordan represent them in peace talks with Israel.

As the PLO chiefs met, Kuwaiti newspapers reported that King Hussein had given Mr. Arafat 48 hours to decide whether to give him a mandate for the peace talks proposed by President Ronald Reagan. If the PLO failed to reach a decision, the king would act on his own initiative, the newspapers said.

Mr. Arafat summoned his top officials Thursday and held an urgent meeting to decide on PLO policy before returning to Amman, Palestinian sources said. If the PLO failed to reach a decision, the king would act on his own initiative, the newspapers Al-Watan and Al-Rai Al-Aam quoted Palestinian sources as saying. In Amman, palace sources said they knew nothing of the reports.

Iranian Plane Hijacked to Gulf

ABU DHABI (UPI) — A hijacked Iranian military plane carrying as many as 70 persons was refused permission to land by at least five different Arab states before touching down temporarily beside a runway in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, reports said Thursday.

However, Radio Riyadh said the plane refueled and took off in the direction it had come from with all passengers except one, who also left the Saudi kingdom for an undisclosed destination.

Iranian officials in Tehran contacted by telephone confirmed there had been a hijacking Wednesday night but released no other details. The Kuwaiti newspaper Al Watan said the aircraft was hijacked by a number of Iranian officers, including a person identified as General Abbas.

For the Record

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Representative George V. Hansen, Republican of Idaho, was indicted Thursday on charges of making false statements on his congressional financial disclosure statements he filed in 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981.

RABAT, Morocco (Reuters) — The Moroccan-Algerian border was partly reopened Thursday to nationals of both countries for the first time in seven years, allowing 120 Algerian residents of Morocco and 70 Moroccans living in Algeria to cross the border.

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican has excommunicated for the second time a Vietnamese archbishop, Pierre Martin Ngo Dinh Thuc, 85, accused of consecrating bishops without papal authority, the Vatican announced Thursday.

Reagan Administration Asks Delay Of House Vote on Aid to Salvador

WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration, worried about rising congressional opposition to \$60 million more in military aid to El Salvador, is seeking an indefinite delay in the emergency aid package until it can muster enough votes on Capitol Hill.

Administration officials said the delay was prompted in large part by indications that the military assistance request would be rejected in the House Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations.

The delay itself appeared to be somewhat unusual because Pentagon and State Department officials said last month that El Salvador faced a "crisis" and could run out of military supplies in 30 days unless the United States provided the additional aid.

Wednesday, when Secretary of State George P. Shultz visited the office of Representative Clarence D. Long, the Maryland Democrat who is chairman of the House panel.

"Right now, if we put this before the subcommittee it would lose," Mr. Long said after meeting with Mr. Shultz.

Reagan Backed Program On 'Cuba-Model' Nations

(Continued from Page 1)

deteriorating military situation in El Salvador, and the guerrillas have made some significant military advances.

Much of the meeting, according to the memorandum, was devoted to the situation in Guatemala, where a leftist-led guerrilla movement predates by several years the one in El Salvador.

Because of Guatemala's human rights record when General Romeo Lucas Garcia was in power, U.S. military aid was suspended during the Carter administration. On March 23, 1982, a military coup put General Efraim Rios Montt in charge.

The members of Mr. Reagan's national planning group, according to the memorandum, said the coup "has given us new possibilities for working out an improved relationship with that country."

But senior U.S. diplomats in Guatemala at the time, including Ambassador Frederic L. Chapin, viewed the coup with considerable concern.

For several months afterward, U.S. diplomats in Guatemala and State Department officials in Washington were saying that a decision on whether to renew military aid to Guatemala would not be made until the Rios Montt government had demonstrated a commitment to improving the rights record.

But about three weeks after the coup, Mr. Reagan and his foreign policy advisers recommended up to \$10 million in military sales credits and \$50 million from the International Military Education and Training program for the country, as well as sales of military equipment.

Thailand Strikes Back At Vietnamese Forces

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BANGKOK — The Thai Army has launched a combined air and ground operation to repel Vietnamese forces who have been pursuing their offensive against Cambodian guerrillas into Thailand, military sources said Thursday.

The Vietnamese began their offensive last Thursday.

On Wednesday, the Thai military sources said, the air force bombed and strafed Vietnamese troops dug in about one mile (1.6 kilometers) inside Thailand and north of the border town of Aranyaprathet. United Press International reported.

Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Paul D. Wolfowitz met Thursday in Bangkok with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda and promised to speed up deliveries of U.S. arms already ordered by Thailand to help deal with the border threat.

The sources contradicted earlier Thai military intelligence reports that all Vietnamese troops had retreated from Thailand after Monday's retaliatory attacks.

Thai and Vietnamese artillery units exchanged fire, the sources said, in the area around Phnom Phra, north of Aranyaprathet.

Arut Kamleng-ek, commander in chief of the Thai army, said Thursday that his forces had found the bodies of more than 10 Vietnamese soldiers on Thai soil, Reuters reported. Senior army officers said a large number of Vietnamese troops were killed in a palm attack by two F-5 fighter-bombers on a hill just inside Thailand last weekend.

Vietnam said Wednesday that Thailand was responsible for creating the tension at the border by aiding the guerrillas seeking to unseat the Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh, installed by Hanoi in early 1979.

In a broadcast late Wednesday, Radio Hanoi ridiculed Thailand's diplomatic offensive against Vietnam's military moves.

Quoting the Vietnamese Army newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dan, the radio, in a broadcast monitored in Bangkok, said: "It is none other than Bangkok which is creating the tension at the Thai-Cambodian border." Cambodia was renamed Democratic Kampuchea in a constitution promulgated in 1976.

Red Cross officials said scores of Cambodian civilians have died and more than 300 others have been wounded in the week of fighting. At least five Thai soldiers have been killed and 14 wounded in clashes, officials said.

The Vietnamese have reportedly destroyed both a major Khmer Rouge guerrilla base at Phnom Chhat and the O-Smak headquarters of rebels loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the country's former ruler. The prince now leads an anti-Vietnamese coalition.

The offensive, which also threatens camps of a third coalition faction under Son Sann, has pushed about 50,000 more refugees into Thailand.

Thailand has protested to the United Nations about Vietnamese intrusions into Thailand and shelling of Thai border villages.

Pol Pot, former leader of the Khmer Rouge, said Thursday that Hanoi's offensive was designed to topple the Thai government.

"The real aim of Vietnam is to topple the present government of Thailand and create trouble and uncertainty in Thailand so that Vietnam can continue to control Kampuchea," he said.

Juan Carlos Visits Pope

ROME (UPI) — King Juan Carlos of Spain, accompanied by Queen Sofia and their three children, arrived in Rome Thursday for a private meeting with Pope John Paul II to thank him for his visit to Spain last fall.



SENTENCED — Allan Goodman, an American-born Israeli soldier, leaving a Jerusalem courtroom Thursday after he was sentenced to life in prison for the attack a year ago at the Dome of the Rock in which two persons died. As he was led away, he cried, "Peace now. Liquidate the Arab occupation."

Warsaw Pact Calls on NATO to Begin Talks

VIENNA — Warsaw Pact foreign ministers appealed Thursday to NATO to respond constructively to an offer of a nonaggression treaty and said they were ready to discuss details of the proposal with individual countries.

In a communiqué after a two-day session in Prague, the ministers noted that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization had said it intended to study the suggestion, made by the communist alliance at a summit meeting in January.

The Warsaw Pact ministers "voiced the hope that these countries would take a constructive stand on the conclusion of such a treaty," the Czechoslovak press agency CTK quoted the communiqué as saying.

The communiqué did not go into details of the proposed accord, which in general envisages both alliances as pledging not to be the first to use military force.

But it said contacts between the Warsaw Pact's seven member countries and other nations showed that there was great interest in the proposal.

The ministers, headed by Andrei A. Gromyko, the Soviet foreign minister, said they were ready to "further in an all-round manner the study of their proposal and to promote exchanges of views on its various aspects with all interested countries."

The communiqué said: "The participants in the session consider it useful and desirable to continue bilateral contacts with the NATO member states and other countries."

It added that "it would be possible to consider the respective problems on a multilateral basis, on a level and in forms that would be acceptable to all."

Other countries represented at the session were Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Romania.

The communiqué said the ministers discussed developments in Europe since January's Warsaw Pact summit session at which the offer on the nonaggression pact was made.

They also considered how to implement this and other proposals made at the summit conference, including "measures to prevent an escalation of the nuclear arms race on the European continent," the communiqué said.

The ministers said Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on limiting medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe had made no progress.

They added that the issue must be resolved in a way that excluded the planned NATO deployment of U.S. medium-range weapons in Europe and that secured a military-

strategic balance at ever lower levels.

Contrary to the expectations of some Western diplomats, the communiqué made no specific mention of a recent compromise offer by President Ronald Reagan of an interim agreement on European missiles. That offer has already been rejected by the Kremlin.

Mr. Reagan said his proposal would give both sides equal numbers of medium-range warheads while negotiations continued on a long-term agreement on the elimination of all such weapons. But Mr. Gromyko replied Saturday that the plan would give the West a superiority of more than 2-to-1.

The ministers reiterated the Warsaw Pact's backing for an earlier Kremlin proposal to reduce the number of Soviet missiles in Europe to the total number of such British and French missiles combined.

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Astronauts on Shuttle Begin a Walk in Space, First for U.S. Since '74

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida — Two astronauts opened the hatch from the space shuttle Challenger's airlock into its open cargo bay Thursday and began the first American space walk in nine years.

Clad in cumbersome \$2.1-million spacesuits, Story Musgrave and Donald H. Peterson moved gingerly into the 60-foot-long (18-meter) bay for an excursion planned to last three and a half hours.

They were to test the heavily insulated white suits and their ability to work with tools that could be used on future missions to repair satellites. They also planned to inspect a rocket pod damaged slightly during the launching Monday.

The spacesuits worn Thursday were the same suits that developed problems during the last shuttle flight, five months ago by the shuttle Columbia, forcing cancellation of plans for a space walk then. The outfits have been extensively reconditioned and tested since then.

Dr. Musgrave, a physician, entered the cargo bay first at 4:26 P.M. EST. Mr. Peterson, a retired Air Force colonel, waited in the doorway while Dr. Musgrave clamped a 50-foot safety tether

onto a guidewire running the length of the bay. Mr. Peterson followed within minutes.

Before leaving the craft, the spacewalkers breathed pure oxygen for more than three hours to purge their systems of nitrogen that could give them the bends, the painful condition sometimes experienced by deep-sea divers.

The two men had tried on the 250-pound (113-kilogram) spacesuits Wednesday night, and Dr. Musgrave, a space expert, pronounced them fit for use. The suits are equipped with pressurized oxygen, cooling and communications systems, drinking water, a food snack and a urine-collection device.

Paul J. Weitz, the shuttle commander, and Karol K. Bobko, the pilot, monitored Thursday's operation from the cabin of the Challenger.

The shuttle's flight has remained largely trouble-free. The astronauts are scheduled to complete orbital operations Friday and glide to a landing Saturday in the Mojave Desert in California.

A minor problem arose early Thursday when the mission control center's data system was blocked for 14 minutes by a computer failure. The astronauts, however, had the information they needed on their own instruments.

Meanwhile, the \$100-million satellite that wandered off course after being ejected Monday by the shuttle is now in good condition, and officials said Thursday they will soon start a series of rocket thruster firings to move it.

Robert O. Allen, director of the satellite program for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, said engineers at a tracking station in White Sands, New Mexico, are working out a plan to move the satellite's orbit to its desired point, 22,300 miles (35,800 kilometers) over the equator near the coast of Brazil. He said the adjustment, to begin within a week or two, may take as long as two weeks.

Mr. Allen said the satellite has about 1,200 pounds of fuel on board and that the maneuvers will use about 850 pounds. The remaining fuel, he said, should be enough to operate the craft for its 10-year lifetime.

Satellite's Ownership
Lee Dembart of the Los Angeles Times reported from Houston.

The Tracking and Data Relay Satellite is the first of three that will replace the ground stations now used by NASA to communicate with spacecraft. In an unusual arrangement, the system is owned by a private company that leases the satellites to NASA, its only customer.

Space agency officials defended the decision to handle ownership in this way.

"It was determined in 1975 that a more desirable route was to commercialize this operation and for NASA to lease the service," said NASA's Mr. Allen.

The system eventually will enable almost continuous communication with the space shuttle and with up to 26 other satellites.



LOSS LEADER LINE — Dozens of cars lined up in Worcester, Massachusetts, for a chance to buy gasoline at Jerry Kotny's gas station. Mr. Kotny had announced that for one hour he would sell gas at 13 cents a gallon, a price lower than the combined federal and states taxes on gasoline. The promotional stunt was a big success: 65 motorists filled up during the one hour in which Mr. Kotny says he lost \$1,000.

Reagan Draws a Protest in Pittsburgh

President Promises Help in Creating New Jobs as 4,000 Demonstrate

By Steven R. Weisman

New York Times Service

PITTSBURGH — President Ronald Reagan, traveling to one of the nation's most economically depressed regions, drew an angry crowd of 4,000 protesters here as he pledged to help retrain unemployed steelworkers for new jobs and protect the steel industry from collapsing.

One of the largest demonstrations against Mr. Reagan during the two years of his administration took place Wednesday outside the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel as he spoke inside to the National Conference on the Disabled Worker.

The conference was aimed at finding ways to retrain unemployed steelworkers and others for new jobs in high-technology industries.

"I come not only as a speaker, but as a possible victim," Mr. Reagan said, in a joking reference to the protesters. "I assume there are a number of Democrats who would just love to dislocate me."

The audience of 1,000 responded with laughter and applause.

Mr. Reagan, entering and leaving the hotel through an underground garage, avoided all but a handful of the demonstrators. But Labor Secretary Raymond J. Donovan, looking grim, was jeered by several hundred as he left the hotel.

The demonstrators, booing and chanting "Send Reagan home!" and "We want jobs!" were largely unemployed steelworkers in this community where several mills have closed. The jobless rate in the city remains at 16 percent, nearly twice the rate it was in October 1980, when Mr. Reagan visited the city as a presidential candidate.

Mr. Reagan coupled his speech Wednesday with a visit to a computer training class at the Control Data Corp. to underscore his administration's initiatives in retraining the unemployed. Control Data operates 40 computer schools in the United States and abroad. The one Mr. Reagan visited has received more than \$550,000 in U.S. and state funds since it started in January.

He told the 75 students in the classroom: "I'm deeply aware of the heartache and the pressure many of you have experienced in the last few years. Now it's not easy on you or your families. But the commitment you've made by being part of this program represents all the difference in your lives."

Responding to a question, Mr. Reagan said the principle of retraining did not mean that "the smokescreen industry" would "disappear in America."

He said he had not been "stand-

ing by doing nothing" for the steel industry. He cited his successful efforts to persuade Europeans and the Japanese to curb steel exports to the United States and said his administration had reduced taxes and eased regulations on the steel industry.

Asked about the problem of unemployed workers exhausting their health and unemployment benefits, Mr. Reagan said, "we are looking at several things that have been suggested." He said his administration favored "short-term" programs over the creation of "a new entitlement program" for the jobless.

In January, Mr. Reagan proposed spending \$300 million in 1984 to retrain "dislocated" workers in addition to the \$3.5 billion for regular training programs.

The administration calls for outlays in 1984 of \$5.4 billion in employment and training, a reduction from \$5.8 billion this year. In 1981, the government spent \$9.2 billion for employment training.

The president also reiterated his appeal for tax credits for employers who hire the long-term unemployed and for a lower minimum wage for summer jobs for teenagers.

The president also defended his economic program and denounced

the Democratic budget alternatives, saying they relied on repealing the tax cuts enacted in 1981.

"To those who would consider changing those tax laws, I'm sleeping with a pen under my pillow, ready for a veto," he said.

The president employed a favorite digression to illustrate the need for job training, drawing laughter. He said he had recently looked at help wanted ads in The Pittsburgh Press.

"I'll read you the entire ad," he said. "System programmer — large-scale IBM, VTAM, TSO/SPF, ACE, CICS, OS/MVS. The point is that we're in a new age. No longer do the ads simply offer jobs with good hours and no heavy lifting. You have to be a specialist to know what the ad is even about."

An unscheduled incident occurred at the Control Data center when a trainee, Ron Bricker, rose and said, "Mr. President, I've been looking for a job for a year, and I can't find one." As several colleagues shouted, "All right!" Mr. Bricker marched up and handed Mr. Reagan his resume.

According to the White House, the president passed the resume along to Governor Dick Thornburgh. Mr. Donovan and other officials and asked them to try to help Mr. Bricker.

VA to Treat GIs Exposed To A-Tests

By Pete Earley

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — After 17 months of delay, the Veterans Administration has agreed to give free medical treatment to military personnel who took part in open-air atomic tests and whose illnesses might have been caused by exposure to radiation.

The policy change, announced at a meeting of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Wednesday, was a belated victory for the nation's "atomic veterans" — an estimated 250,000 to 500,000 servicemen who participated in atomic tests in Nevada and the Pacific between 1945 and 1962.

Free medical care brings the veterans one step closer to obtaining the same limited rights that the VA has granted reluctantly to Vietnam veterans exposed to the defoliant Agent Orange.

But officials said the agency does not intend to soften its policy of rejecting most disability compensation claims filed by "atomic veterans." VA scientists said they do not believe there is any evidence that those veterans were exposed to enough radiation to suffer health problems.

The agency also said it opposes legislation requiring several VA studies of "atomic veterans," including one comparing the health of veterans exposed to radiation with those who were not exposed. Congress ordered the VA in 1981 to provide free health care to veterans for any ailment that might reasonably be assumed to result from exposure to radiation or to Agent Orange. The VA began providing such care to veterans exposed to Agent Orange, but it limited treatment for "atomic veterans" to those suffering from cancer or thyroid diseases.

A parade of witnesses, mostly from the National Association of Atomic Veterans, denounced the VA for failing to enact standard procedures for deciding when "atomic veterans" should receive disability compensation.

A total of 2,067 "atomic veterans" have filed claims for a variety of disabilities that they blame on exposure to radiation. The VA has approved 29 of them, including 15 on appeal.

Toxin Case Lead Ignored by EPA

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The federal Environmental Protection Agency has acknowledged that it failed for two years to pursue information that could have forced several corporations to finance a multimillion-dollar cleanup of a vast lagoon of toxic waste in southern New Jersey.

The lagoon, an estimated 50 million gallons (190 million liters) of oily wastes bordering a defunct storage-tank farm in Gloucester County, has contaminated several nearby water wells. It has become one of the most serious cleanup problems facing the agency in the New York region.

In 1981 the EPA was given a list of companies that had used tanks at the New Jersey site. But the list was never followed up because "investigators did not feel they were hot leads," said Richard T. Dewling, deputy administrator of the EPA's regional office in Manhattan.

IRS Takes New Steps to Fight 'Staggering' Tax Cheating

By Robert L. Jackson

Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — Tax cheating in the United States has reached a "staggering" all-time high, costing the government as much as \$92 billion annually, and the Internal Revenue Service is initiating new steps to combat it, according to Roscoe L. Egger Jr., commissioner of the IRS.

Mr. Egger said Wednesday that his agency has begun to challenge the returns of millions of taxpayers in a program of highly focused, written queries that will reach more citizens than before.

He also said that, under legislation passed by Congress last fall, the IRS is levying heavy new penalties against wealthy taxpayers who

have enrolled in tax shelter schemes questioned by the agency. In some cases, the penalties are 65 percent plus the taxes due.

In an interview as he began his third year in office, Mr. Egger also said:

- The IRS will increase undercover operations because he believes they are the only way to root out certain criminal tax schemes involving businessmen as well as organized criminals.

- The agency will redouble its efforts to persuade "tax haven" countries in the Caribbean to exchange information with U.S. criminal investigators.

But despite the fact that many wealthy Americans are using Car-

ibbean banks to hide taxable income, he said, the IRS does not plan to reinstitute intelligence-gathering operations in that region in view of the furor they caused in the mid-1970s.

- Tax collections will suffer badly, and the agency's resources will be strained further, if Congress repeals the 10-percent withholding tax on most interest and dividend income scheduled to take effect July 1.

Commissioner Egger said normally law-abiding citizens are evading taxes of \$75 billion to \$80 billion a year while members of organized crime, such as narcotics traffickers, are costing the Treasury an additional \$9 billion to \$12 bil-

lion by not reporting their illicit profits.

The cheating is staggering, he said, "but I don't think it's epidemic."

Mr. Egger acknowledged that the growing volume of tax returns has reduced IRS audits to about 1.7 percent of the total. There were 95 million individual returns last year plus 75 million corporate, employment tax and other returns. But he said that 6 percent of returns showing \$50,000 or more in income were fully audited.

In January 1982, he said 8 percent of all tax returns were being audited and contended that the figure should rise to 35 percent.

He said Wednesday that, in a stepped-up enforcement effort,

agents were sending written questions to millions of additional taxpayers on individual line items that seemed unusual, such as heavy contributions to churches, large medical deductions or inconsistencies between figures on W-2 forms and tax credits claimed.

"We are having more contact with taxpayers on limited items," he said. "If we're satisfied with their answers, we do not audit their full returns."

Taxpayers who have invested in unusual tax shelters, and therefore are claiming business losses that reduce their taxes, are getting extra scrutiny, he said. Mr. Egger estimated that the IRS loses about \$3.5 billion in taxes annually because of illicit tax shelters.

U.S. Approves Nonprescription Contraceptive Sponge

By Robert Pear

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration has approved a new nonprescription contraceptive for women.

The product consists of a soft, disposable polyurethane sponge. The sponge is permeated with spermicide. It does not have to be fitted by a physician.

Faye H. Peterson, a spokesman for the food and drug agency, said Wednesday that in clinical trials, the sponge "was found to be about 85 percent effective in preventing pregnancy." The sponge, she said, has an effectiveness rate "in the same range as other vaginal contraceptive products such as the diaphragm."

However, the diaphragm, like birth-control pills and intrauterine devices, requires a prescription. The vaginal contraceptive sponge is manufactured by the VLI Corp. of Costa Mesa, California, created in 1976 to develop this product. The sponge is to be sold under the brand name Today for about \$1.

The National Institutes of Health, an agency of the Public Health Service, provided more than \$600,000 to support tests of the sponge. These involved nearly 1,600 women over the last three years. Many said they found it convenient to use, according to FDA officials and a spokesman for the company.

Thus, experts on contraception

and drug industry analysts said they believed that the sponge could eventually gain a substantial share of the market for vaginal contraceptives.

Dr. Robert J. Temple, acting director of new drug evaluation for the FDA, disclosed approval of the sponge in a letter sent to Dr. Bruce W. Vorhauer, president of VLI.

The sponge is designed to work in three ways. Its most important

function is to release a chemical, nonoxonyl-9, which kills sperm. This chemical has been used in many other contraceptives, including creams and gels. The sponge may also block the cervix so that sperm cannot enter the womb. Finally, the sponge is supposed to trap and absorb semen.

Federal drug officials said that the sponge would probably be more convenient to use than other

female contraceptives sold over the counter. These products include foams, gels and creams.

Dr. Temple of the FDA told the company that it must make several changes in its labeling and must include several statements in its instruction booklet for users of the contraceptive sponge. The company, he said, should not use the words "highly effective" in describing its product.

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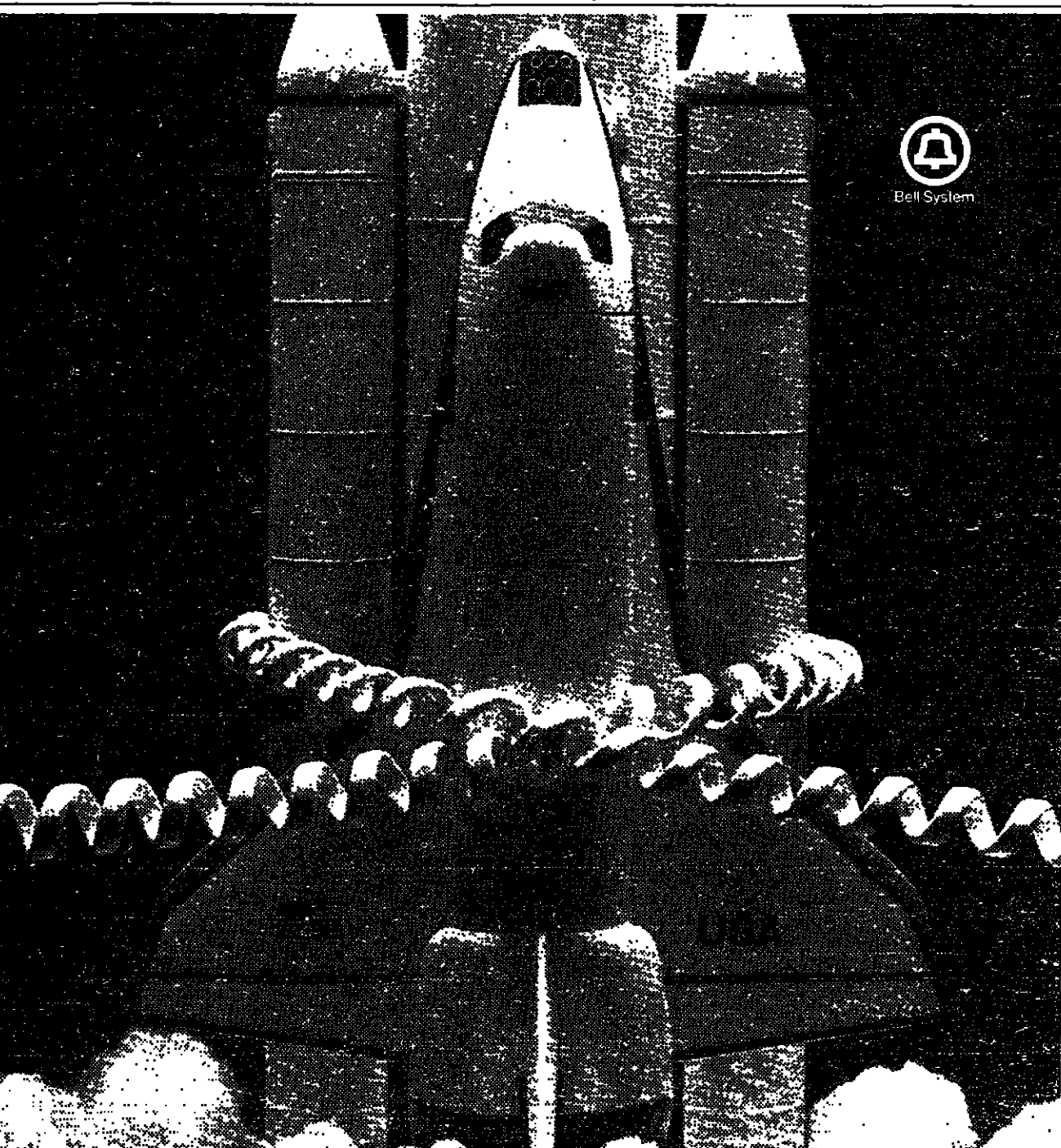
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A Continuing Outrage

The report from Johannesburg told of the death of Saul Mkhize — a "conservative" black African, it was said, shot to death Saturday by police while protesting the forced removal of his people from their village to a relocation site thought more suitable for blacks. The circumstances of this killing are bound to generate much argument. A police spokesman said that Mr. Mkhize, a 48-year-old accountant, was shot by police "in self-defense" because a riot was building. Some witnesses made quite different claims.

This dispute as to the facts of the shooting will probably never be resolved. The South African government is not famous for its mildty, for the plausibility of its official findings as to how blacks have met violent death at the hands of its police officers or while in their custody. But there is another issue here that does not require any boards of investigation or sworn testimony, one that is worth plucking out of the sad story of Mr. Mkhize and contemplating on its own. The issue is what he was protesting: the forced removal of thousands upon thousands of blacks to homelands where the government has decided to dump them. Read that part of the story as more than mere context, more than mere backdrop to a killing. It is its own separate — and huge and continuing — outrage.

Driefontein had been the home of these particular black Africans since early in the century. It was evidently a productive, stable, independent farming community of around 5,000 people. The government, as it has with so many others, decided that the community had to go, since it constituted a forbidden "black spot" in an officially white area. Mr. Mkhize, who worked in Johannesburg and came back to Driefontein on weekends, opposed the uprooting. So did others. It got them nowhere, of course. It got Mr. Mkhize killed.

It is important to remember that this sinister policy of forced relocation — the hauling away of blacks, in trucks, from places where they may have been living for years, to desolate camps where they may not want to go at all — is proceeding without cease in South Africa. You hear a lot from the government and its defenders about the relatively small-step ameliorations it is making in the condition of some urban blacks. You do not hear from it about this carting off of whole populations to barren, so-called homelands — "homelands" where they probably have never lived.

That is apartheid in action. It is what the system is all about. And it is what must be changed before anyone can talk with a straight face, of reform in South Africa.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

A Bad Day for the KGB

The expulsion of 47 Soviets as spies from France calls fresh attention to the Kremlin's massive and unremitting effort to steal the secrets of foreign countries.

Everyone knows in a general way that espionage goes on and that the Soviet Union is not the only nation to practice it. Still, the scope of Soviet intelligence activity is especially large and menacing — its reach beyond the military and political sphere into the scientific and industrial, its claim on Soviet resources including the particular resource of foreign billets, its contempt for the privileges of the West's open societies. Just in the last few days, Soviet citizens have also been expelled from Britain and Spain. Nor should one ignore the work done for Moscow by the East Europeans — Bulgaria's apparent role in the attempted assassination of the pope, for instance.

Eyebrows are being raised at the sight of a

French government of the left, one including Communist ministers, booting out a plenitude of Russian spies. (Do you suppose they got the Aeroflot group rate?) Some past French governments have been suspected of lacking the backbone to assert national interests, but François Mitterrand has not hesitated to take forthright positions on Moscow's foreign and nuclear policies. For that matter, there is not the slightest sign that Moscow scaled back its espionage in France just because a government of the left had come to power.

We cannot resist noting the dramatic and heartrending terms in which one of the boot-ed-outniks, Tass bureau chief Oleg Chirokov, protested his expulsion. It was, he said, "an insult to the whole journalistic profession." That is a fascinating observation for a Tass bureau chief to make. How would he know?

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Help the Caribbean

No region has been promised more and given less in U.S. development help than the Caribbean. The Reagan administration now has a second and possibly final chance to redeem its program. If it fails to wrest innovative trade features from Congress this year, it will crucially undercut democratic partners eager to try its free market recipe for growth.

Congress has already approved \$350 million in economic aid for 19 countries, nearly half earmarked for El Salvador. But protectionists have blocked the proposal to drop the duties on some imports from the region — with the predictable exceptions of petroleum products, tuna, certain textile apparel and leather wares.

The bill just introduced by Senator Dole is impaired by these restrictions. Even so, it would offer a welcome impetus to trade with the Caribbean, where wages are lower and unemployment dramatically higher than in the United States. The measure is consistent with trade preferences that the countries of the

European Community offer to poorer lands with which they have historic ties.

Trade preferences can cost jobs, but the basin has become a \$7 billion market; expansion would increase its purchases in the United States and reduce the flow of jobless immigrants. By any calculus of U.S. self-interest, a thriving and stable Caribbean is worth risks.

Human rights are another matter. Duty-free concessions are subject to a presidential finding that the benefiting countries respect the rights and conditions of labor. American unionists would deny the certification to Haiti, Guatemala and El Salvador, where they find basic labor rights violated. This surely deserves debate. Mr. Reagan's initiative assumes a shared commitment to democratic forms; hence it excludes Cuba. The aid is meant to shore up troubled democracies. If Congress wants a protectionist test, let it apply it to political values, not tuna and textiles.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Opinion

Moscow and the Vietnamese

The situation along Thailand's border with Cambodia has suddenly escalated into a serious and potentially dangerous conflict. It would be a mistake to see Vietnam as a Russian cat's-paw in Southeast Asia. The control of Indochina is a goal which the Vietnamese have pursued with single-minded ruthlessness since the 1940s. It is being done, primarily, to secure Hanoi's hegemony, not Moscow's. Nevertheless, without Soviet help Vietnam would not only be unable to pursue this goal but would also face serious internal instability as the economy, ravaged by three decades of war, collapsed. If the Kremlin is serious about mending its fences with China, which sees the spread of Vietnamese influence as a threat to its own pre-eminence, it must persuade Hanoi to stop fighting and start talking in earnest.

— The Financial Times (London).

Japan and the SS-20s

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's statement (that Moscow might relocate SS-20s

from Europe to the Far East) clarifies most eloquently the fact that the continued conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States over nuclear power supremacy has now spread to northeastern Asia, including Japan. The core of the whole issue lies in the fact that the nuclear deterrent, as proclaimed by the two superpowers, is on the verge of collapsing because of increased multi-head missiles and improved accuracy of lethal weapons.

Roughly speaking, Japan has two choices to cope with the fast-changing situation. One is to take sides with the United States and come under its umbrella. The other is to push through its three-point non-nuclear principles. Ironically as it may sound, in this age of nuclear overkill being non-nuclear is becoming a deterrent. Our government has always been passive in dealing with the nuclear problems. Its hesitant position has invited the Gromyko statement. If the three-point non-nuclear principles are truly the national policy of Japan, the government should take the initiative in promoting peace and security in Asia by disarmament and the abolition of nuclear arms.

— The Mainichi Daily News (Tokyo).

FROM OUR APRIL 8 PAGES, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1908: Spanish Terrorists Sought

MADRID — At the trial of the Barcelona anarchist, twenty-three witnesses were heard [yesterday], including the president of the Catalan Council. There was one curious incident when one of the counsels engaged in prosecuting Rull left his desk and went into the witness box and gave evidence against him, afterwards resuming his seat at counsels' table. It is generally believed that other terrorists besides Rull exist. A number of prominent personages have met at the Marquise Abella's and resolved to offer a large reward for the discovery of the terrorists. The Spanish government will head the list with 50,000 pesetas. The Banco Espana will give 10,000 pesetas.

1933: Roosevelt Invites Leaders

WASHINGTON — Enlarging the scope of the preliminary conversations preparatory to the World Economic Conference at London, President Roosevelt invited Prime Ministers Mussolini of Italy and Daladier of France and Chancellor Hitler of Germany to come to Washington, presumably to set in motion a gigantic program for rehabilitation of world trade. The invitations follow the acceptance of Prime Minister MacDonald to come to the United States ten days hence. The move to bring the major powers here at this time brings high hopes that an Anglo-American economic program will be decided upon which will lay the foundation for accords in London.

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Cause for U.S. Concern in Lebanon

By Philip Geyelin

WASHINGTON — The story rated only four paragraphs deep inside the morning newspaper. Israel and Syrian forces had exchanged tank and mortar fire in the first such flare-up in four months. Tass was blowing hard about Israel's "military preparations" for a "piratic strike against Syria."

No big deal, on its face. Tass is not exactly a reliable source. The artillery "battle" reported by UPI had been brief and tentative. Still, only a day or so earlier a top Middle East hand in the Reagan administration had been laying out a hair-raising "scenario" that began with precisely the same sort of mindless shoot-out between Israeli and Syrian forces in Lebanon.

Except that in this hypothetical version, the shooting doesn't stop. Both sides suffer losses. As the fighting intensifies, Israeli warplanes rush in to attack Syrian tanks. Syrian surface-to-air missiles with Soviet crews open up from Syria on the Israeli aircraft. The Israelis swiftly cross into Syria to wipe out the missile installations, inflicting casualties among the Syrian crewmen.

Can the Soviets sit down for this? Do they intervene in Syria's support in a way that challenges America to respond on Israel's behalf?

Scenario writers are paid to make the worst case. But this one is sufficiently plausible to be adding to the considerable pressure on the Reagan administration to find a way out of the impasse over removal of foreign forces (Israeli, Syrian, PLO) from Lebanon.

The pressure becomes all the more acute when you consider that there are U.S. Marines in the multinational peacekeeping force ashore in Lebanon, and that, contrary to the popular assumption,

there is little prospect for their early disengagement, or for the removal of the heavy U.S. military presence offshore, even given a quick agreement on a withdrawal timetable.

The impression you get from public U.S. pronouncements is that withdrawal would follow swiftly upon an agreement. The main differences seem to center only on the extent of a residual Israeli presence (patrols, observation posts) in southern Lebanon. The Syrians are holding out for no Israeli conditions, but would probably accept a few, while insisting on equal opportunities for Syria in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

But even if the parties could agree on such a happy ending, the question increasingly worrying policy-makers and members of Congress is how you get to it. The answer, it is increasingly recognized, is that "cold turkey" won't work for Lebanon. Even those most opposed to the original Israeli invasion will concede that withdrawal by all foreign elements will have to be in stages: timed and coordinated to fit the capabilities of an expanded, retrained and re-equipped Lebanese Army to fill the void.

President Amin Gemayel is barely able to exert his authority in Beirut. According to a "policy alert" prepared by experts in the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress and now circulating on Capitol Hill, "Most observers estimate that it will take two years to train and equip the minimum size force that could effectively police the country."

Thus a precipitous withdrawal by Israelis and

Syrians would leave the Lebanese government where it has been for almost a decade, at the mercy of bloody feuding between Christian and Muslim factions. "The United States could then face the alternatives of committing more troops for an extended stay under dangerous, if not hostile, circumstances, or of witnessing renewed violence and bloodshed in Lebanon," the congressional study concludes. It argues for a "phased agreement," whereby Israeli and Syrian troops would progressively turn over control of Lebanese territory to the Lebanese Army.

Even that arrangement would probably require a larger U.S. contribution to an expanded multinational peacekeeping force. It would mean maintaining a precarious balance between Israeli and Syrian forces as they phase their way out of the country, with a continuing risk of outbreaks of shooting between them. It would put American armed forces even more deeply into what the War Powers Act calls a "hostile environment" — unlike Nicaragua or El Salvador, where the involvement of the CIA and/or U.S. military advisers is at least once-removed from an actual combat role and likely to remain so.

Not so in Lebanon. The Library of Congress's "policy alert" may overstate Lebanon's internal instability. Administration officials insist that the Lebanese Army can be whipped into shape in a matter of a few months. But the record of the last decade or so suggests otherwise. If there is a foreign entanglement involving a real threat of combat activity to worry about, it is in Lebanon, however successful the negotiations for the withdrawal of foreign forces.

The Washington Post.

Maybe the Farmers Could Cooperate

By James Reston

WASHINGTON — The State and Defense departments have not had much success in dealing with the Russians lately. Maybe the problem should be turned over to the Department of Agriculture. It is obviously the most successful department in Washington.

From Vietnam to Iran, the Defense Department hasn't won a war and has failed everything except selling arms, now the major growth industry in America. From the Middle East to Central America, the State Department hasn't won a diplomatic game since Panama. From Japan to West Germany, the Commerce Department has been a loser in world trade.

But nobody seems to match the Department of Agriculture anywhere in the world. With the help of the farmers, the land grant colleges and the farm agents in every country, they are producing so much fodder, beef, milk and cheese that President Reagan is cutting down on their production and giving away their surplus to the poor in Chicago and elsewhere in the country — never mind the third of the human race going to bed hungry every night.

The president and the press seldom mention the Department of Agriculture except at election time, when the farmers' votes are important in Iowa. Meanwhile, all it does is preside over the most productive stretch of land in the history of the world, feeding more people than ever before with fewer farmers.

The success of American agriculture is one of the wonders of the nation. Ironically these days, it is a symbol of the gap between the United States and the rest of the world. It is a symbol of cooperation between the state and the individual.

It was the idea of Jonathan Baldwin Turner of Illinois and Justin S. Morrill of Vermont that grants of federal land should be made for the establishment in every state of agricultural and mechanical arts colleges. Somehow President Lincoln found time in 1862, during the Civil War, to get the Morrill Act through Congress. This was the basis of today's American agricultural supremacy.

Is America really using this unique agricultural resource to best advantage as an instrument of peace in the world? Should it be sending more food rather than more arms to the contending factions in Central America? Should we always be talking to the Russians about confrontation in missiles, or instead offering to cooperate with them in solving the production of food at home?

The fact is that the Department of Agriculture has something to offer that the State Department and the Pentagon ignore. It can offer cooperation instead of confrontation.

Maybe it couldn't get around the crazy communal system of the Soviet farms, but if given a chance the American farmer can grow wheat or corn in central Russia as successfully as that he could show the Soviets how to grow fruit and other food in Siberia in far greater quantities than they are now doing.

Maybe this is a goofy proposal. The Russians would undoubtedly

resent the suggestion that they need our help. But everybody who has ever raised a child knows that when things get tough, you have to change the question. If done quietly, it might make a difference.

I have talked to the secretary of agriculture about this and he was very canny, recognizing the political problems, but he agreed that there were areas of potential cooperation in agriculture in the Soviet Union and in Central America that might be explored to the benefit of peace and the American farmers.

But that is not what is discussed in Washington. With Secretary of Defense Weinberger, everything is confrontation. He went to a concert at the Kennedy Center the other night and all he heard was the drums.

Secretary of State Shultz is different. He listens for the melody and is looking for cooperation. Maybe the best chance of cooperation with Moscow is not with the soldiers or the diplomats, but with the farmers, who may have more to offer and more to say about cooperation and peace than anybody else.

The New York Times.

The Grain Link Is an Opportunity

By Lester R. Brown

WASHINGTON — Each day two 20,000-ton freighters loaded with grain leave America for the Soviet Union. This swelling food connection may be the most important change in relations between the two superpowers since the Cold War began a generation ago.

Agricultural failures have forced the Soviets to seek some 40 million tons of grain imports, more than any country in history. As a result they cannot easily avoid buying from the United States, which dominates world grain trade today as no country has in the past.

The 55-percent U.S. share of world grain exports in 1981 easily overstates Soviet imports. And while the two superpowers since the Cold War began a generation ago.

Agricultural failures have forced the Soviets to seek some 40 million tons of grain imports, more than any country in history. As a result they cannot easily avoid buying from the United States, which dominates world grain trade today as no country has in the past.

From 1972 until 1980 the United States supplied on average 61 percent of Soviet grain imports. With the partial export embargo imposed by the United States in early 1980 after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the U.S. share fell to 24 percent. But when the embargo was lifted in April 1981, Soviet imports from the United States rose again, nearly doubling the 8-million-ton flow permitted under the partial embargo.

This year U.S. grain shipments to the Soviet Union are expected to rival those going to Japan. If Soviet imports continue to be heavy and if the U.S. share of the market continues to move toward pre-embargo levels, the grain trade between the United States and the Soviet Union will shortly become the largest flow of food between two countries in history.

The Soviets have a natural preference for buying basic commodities in the U.S. market, as their grain pur-

chase patterns before the 1980 embargo show. The United States has year-round warm water ports, something Canada lacks, and these ports can handle freighters in the 100,000-ton class. The United States is also geographically closer to Soviet ports than Australia or Argentina, which means lower transport costs. With big grain purchases straining the capacity of Soviet ports, an even flow of grain is essential, and easier to maintain from a single large supplier than from several smaller ones.

In the new commercial food relationship between the two superpowers, dependence is mutual, but it is not symmetrical. Soviet dependence on U.S. supplies, direct or indirect, is greater than U.S. dependence on Soviet markets.

Whether or not the Soviets import directly from the United States, the U.S. export capacity makes Soviet imports possible. If U.S. export capacity had not doubled in the past decade, there would not be nearly enough grain to meet all world import demands at current prices, and certainly not enough to support the growth in Soviet imports.

Soviet food imports, however, are only half the reason for U.S.-Soviet grain trade. The other is American agricultural success, which forces U.S. farmers to find overseas markets for their surplus grain. This is particularly difficult now because the production capacity of American farms continues to climb, while growth in grain markets outside the Soviet Union has been slowed by a sluggish economy worldwide.

The new U.S.-Soviet food connection demonstrates in clear economic

terms that the two countries need each other. Of course, both superpowers at times feel uneasy with their new trade dependency because it complicates a traditional adversarial relationship. Americans may increasingly doubt that a country depending on America for so much food could be as dangerous as commonly portrayed. Hard-liners in the Soviet Union may be unable to convince Kremlin colleagues that the country feeding them is indeed a mortal enemy.

The food link does not ensure peaceful relations, but it will make heavy arms spending more difficult to justify. If wisely used, grain trade could become the cornerstone on which to build a better relationship.

The U.S.-Soviet food connection promises a new era of mutual dependence. Frequent consultations under the grain agreement could lead to consultations in other areas as well. Just as the two countries now find it in their mutual interest to engage in massive food trade, they also might find it advantageous to cooperate in non-agricultural trade, scientific research and space exploration.

The importance of the dramatic shift in the agricultural balance of power lies less in the potential it provides for using food as a political lever than in the psychological effect that the new commercial ties will have on political relations.

The long line of grain-laden ships linking U.S. farmers to Soviet consumers represents a major new economic tie, one that could transform long-term political relationships.

The writer is a senior researcher with the Worldwatch Institute in Washington and author of "Worldwatch Paper 51, U.S. and Soviet Agriculture: The Shifting Balance of Power."

Americans As Judged In Europe

By James Lowenstein

WASHINGTON — The relationship between America and the European countries rests not on a single issue — Euro-missiles, for example — but rather on a subtle, variegated mixture of mutual perceptions and misperceptions that make dissatisfaction and disappointment as much a part of the relationship as approval and appreciation.

In the last decade European attitudes toward America seem to have assumed a new character. Where there was once criticism and nervousness, there now is disillusionment.

Since the end of World War II the same litany has accompanied relations: Europe wants an America that is strong, consistent, reliable and responsive to its allies' internal security. Leaders know better than to believe that relations will return to the good old days of the Cold War, the Marshall Plan, the Berlin airlift, the founding of NATO.

In the past 20 years, since their postwar recovery, Europeans have criticized virtually every aspect of U.S. policy. They have complained when the dollar has been low or high, when we have heavily invested in Europe or have reneached, when our relations with Moscow have been relatively warm or comparatively cold, when we have consulted before acting or acted before consulting.

But in recent years, in addition to periodically articulated doubts about American strength, consistency, reliability and responsiveness, Europeans have begun to question American efficiency and competence.

A senior European official once commented to me that he had been in Washington three times in the past three years and each time had dealt with a different official who knew nothing about discussions held with his predecessor and not much more than that about the subject under discussion. Another said he could not understand how Americans were thought to pull together, because it seemed to him that American officials devoted most of their energy to tearing each other apart.

A third noted that Europeans realized, but Americans did not seem to, that several European countries now have a higher GNP per capita than America; that transportation, the postal systems and public education often operate more effectively there than here; that many European managers work harder than their American counterparts. (He added that Europeans put their money into American stocks and real estate, just as they put their bank accounts in Switzerland, because whatever else may be said, we are politically safe.)

Americans have their own litany. We want a Europe that stands up to the Russians and pays its share of defense costs. We assume that Europeans understand our altruistic motives and are willing to support them, that they believe in us as leader of the free world and will follow our lead.

This is how we want to be perceived, but does our desire correspond to reality? A recent Gallup Poll showed that while French views had generally become more favorable to America since 1976, 52 percent nevertheless said they thought American actions differed too often from their own.

When asked which of five statements best explained the aim of American foreign policy, only 7 percent said it was to aid the development of democracy in the world; 18 percent said it was to maintain world peace; 20 percent said it was to impose America's will on the rest of the world; 36 percent said it was to prevent the spread of communism; and 49 percent said that it was "to protect and expand American business and investment in the world."

Many Americans have tended to consider Europe as being in a state of permanent decline — disgruntled, disoriented, defeatist and dispirited, if not disobedient. Now the temptation might be to conclude that the recent West German and French elections show that the Europeans have seen the light.

That temptation will last until the next problem erupts in America's European relations. When it does, will we be able to look at both sides of the Atlantic, see ourselves as others do, and admit the possibility that when troubles arise in our relationships with the Europeans, the mote in our eye may be — us?

The writer, a partner in an international consulting firm, was U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for European affairs from 1974 to 1977 and ambassador to Luxembourg from 1977 to 1981. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thailand Next?

The Vietnamese Army occupying Cambodia has once again terrorized helpless refugees in Thailand and is indiscriminately killing Thais and Cambodians. The current intrusion is a still more desperate attempt to kill off the national coalition government, which is gaining more and more ground domestically as well as internationally.

The Soviet Union is reaching out, threatening not only the coalition in Cambodia but also Thailand, which is on its way to genuine democracy. If the West fails to react, the Soviet-Vietnamese alliance will be tempted to try to penetrate another step into Southeast Asia.

WALTHER HANSEN, Svendborg, Denmark.

Raw Material Prices

This would be an opportune time, during the glut in the world oil mar-

ket, for the major industrialized nations to join with the oil producers to establish together a fixed and reliable market and market price for oil.

It has been suggested for years that a worldwide floor under commodity prices should be established so that countries almost totally dependent on one commodity would not have their economy destroyed by a drop in world market prices.

Zambia, for example, earns 95 percent of its foreign exchange from copper, whose price reflects demand in industrialized countries. Over the years the price has fallen steadily while the costs of necessary imports, like oil, have increased. Needless to say, the result is devastating to Zambia. In the Third World, many is the country vulnerable to that kind of economic turmoil as cocoa, coffee or other prices fluctuate.

The oil-producing nations might very well join, and even help to fund, a worldwide commodity "bank" that would, perhaps through the United

Nations, establish price floors and controls on excessive price increases for all commodities, and thus put an overdue end to an old problem.

WILLIAM S. DOWNING, William Downing Associates, Ithaca, New York.

Degrelle and Spain

Readers may be interested to learn that Leon Degrelle, the Belgian fascist who was accused of crimes against humanity, receives favorable exposure on Spanish television.

Before his death sentences in Bel-

gium expired under the statute of limitations, he was hidden for 30 years in Spain, while the Belgian government sent 50 petitions to have him extradited. He recently appeared on television as a guest on a panel discussing war crimes. He used his appearance to glorify Hitler, dismissing the death of millions of Jews as an invention of the press.

Degrelle claims Spanish citizenship. In the light of the Barbie case in France, it is interesting that democratic Spain does not seem to envisage reconsidering the award of his citizenship and extraditing him.

H.S. STROUT, Malaga, Spain.

Dallying Over Hu Na

Regarding the editorial "Tennis and Politics" (LHT, March 29):

Several friends and I were encouraged by the willingness of The Washington Post to step forward and sup-

port the case of our compatriot Hu Na. She is quite a brave lady, and after all she has been through she deserved any help.

We can't help but think that if she were a Soviet citizen and/or a Jew, she would have been granted permission to stay in the United States within a matter of days of making her request. Instead she had to wait for almost a year.

CHENG MING-CHIAO, Taipei.

Voting in Australia

Regarding "U.S. Puzzle on Voter Turnout: Why Don't They Turn Out?" (LHT, March 21):

Australia has compulsory voting; failure to vote, without valid reason, is subject to fines. Hence, an international comparison of voting patterns should not include Australia.

Dr. WOLF S. MATSDORF, Jerusalem.

Expulsion of Russians Is Praised in France

Mitterrand Move Said to Confound Rivals, Build Reputation Abroad

By Michael Dobbs

PARIS — French commentators have interpreted the expulsion of 47 alleged Soviet spies as a political masterstroke by President Francois Mitterrand that has disconcerted his political rivals on both the left and the right and strengthened his reputation abroad.

The Socialist government has presented the expulsion as a response to growing Soviet espionage activities in France during the past decade.

In the phrase of the government

NEWS ANALYSIS

spokesman, Mar Gallo, the decision to expel the Soviet personnel was made to show that France was not "a soft underbelly" of Europe, a country that allows the theft of military and technological secrets.

While few political analysts doubt that the Soviet Embassy was engaged in extensive espionage operations, the fact remains that no hard evidence has been produced by the French authorities to explain why such spectacular measures had to be taken.

The conclusion drawn by many commentators Wednesday was that the timing of the operation was dictated by a careful appraisal by Mr. Mitterrand of the political costs and benefits that were likely to flow from it.

An editorial in Libération, the independent leftist daily that broke the news of the expulsions Tuesday morning, said the risks included a further cooling in relations with Moscow.

Such a cooling could result in disruptive activity by pro-Moscow

elements in the French Communist Party and Communist-dominated General Confederation of Labor as the country is tracing itself for harder economic times.

On the other side of the political equation, the paper said the action would improve Mr. Mitterrand's credentials as an "Atlanticist" just a few weeks before the summit meeting of Western industrialized nations at Williamsburg, Virginia.

It will now be easier for the French leader to brush aside U.S. complaints about technology transfers to the Soviet Union or continued unease with the presence of Communists in the government.

To this can be added the domestic political benefits that will result from what the French public is likely to perceive as the government action and the forceful assertion of national interests. Recent public opinion polls show a sharp drop in the popularity of Mr. Mitterrand after a setback in municipal elections in March and the implementation of austerity measures.

Libération pointed out that the spy affair also could have favorable financial repercussions at a time when France was finding it difficult to get fresh capital.

The beauty of Mr. Mitterrand's move, from his point of view, is that it is very difficult for his political rivals to criticize it without appearing to be unpatriotic.

The opposition parties on the right, including the Gaullists, have the delicate task of explaining why they did not take equally vigorous measures during their time in power, while the Communists do not want to be seen as apologists for Moscow.

The Communists have reacted to the dilemma by attempting to ignore it.

L'Humanité, the official party newspaper, devoted only a brief notice to the expulsions, concentrating mainly on the Soviet protest.

The story included a terse comment that the action "unfortunately risks a serious deterioration in the climate of relations" between Paris and Moscow.

Political figures on the right have been reduced to the kind of grudging praise uttered by a former Gaullist interior minister, Raymond Marcellin, who said: "Forty-seven spies, that's fine, but there are hundreds of them."



Edith Cresson, the French minister of tourism and external trade, and Roland Carraz, the state secretary for tourism, answered questions at a press conference in Paris Thursday.

France Urges Common Foreign Trade Policy by EC

Reuter

PARIS — France wants the European Community to adopt a common foreign trade policy, particularly toward Japan and the United States, to avoid the need for protectionist measures by individual countries, Edith Cresson, minister of tourism and external trade, said Thursday.

Mrs. Cresson, referring to French import restrictions on Japanese video recorders, said at a news conference that when one country's trade balance with

another deteriorated seriously, "brutal measures" were inevitable.

Communist Party members of parliament, meanwhile, threatened to abstain Monday when the assembly is asked to give the cabinet authority to put some of its new austerity measures into effect by decree.

The Communists, junior members in the Socialist government, aligned with the Socialists earlier Thursday in a parliamentary confidence motion on the austerity package, which passed 323 to 155.

Bulgarian Doubts Defector's Story

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A Bulgarian spokesman, responding to an article published March 25 in The New York Times, has questioned whether a Bulgarian intelligence official cited actually exists.

The intelligence official was reported to have said that the KGB, the Soviet secret police and intelligence agency, wanted Pope John Paul II assassinated to prevent Western subversion of Poland.

The Times article said a Bulgarian intelligence official named Dimitar Savov told Jordan Mantarov, a Bulgarian who later defected to France, that the Soviet KGB saw the election of the Polish pope in 1979 as a threat to its control over Poland. Mr. Mantarov, identified in the article as a deputy commercial attaché with the Bulgarian Embassy in Paris, has been in French custody since his defection in July 1981.

Boyko Traikov, director-general of the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency, said in a cable sent March 31 that Mr. Mantarov was an employee of a Bulgarian export company,

Agromachinimpex, in Paris but worked as "a maintenance mechanic." The statement was a reiteration of one made last month by the Bulgarian Embassy in Rome.

As for the official identified as Dimitar Savov, the cable said: "According to the computer of the Minister of the Interior, nobody of that name works for the Bulgarian State Security Agency."

The Times article, written by Nicholas Gage, reported that Mr. Mantarov had told the French authorities to whom he defected about his knowledge of the alleged plot.

It also reported the results of Mr. Gage's inquiry into Italy's investigation of purported Bulgarian involvement in the attempted assassination of the pope on May 13, 1981. Mehmet Ali Agca, a Turk, was convicted and has implicated a Bulgarian state airline official in Rome.

According to Craig R. Whitney, foreign editor of The Times, the information in Mr. Gage's article was corroborated with independent sources in the United States and

Aliens in Belgium Cite Pressures As Government Plans Clampdown

Reuter

BRUSSELS — Immigrants in Belgium from outside the European Community point to legal changes as evidence that the recession has caused the Belgian authorities to become hostile toward them.

Justice Minister Jean Gol is preparing legislation to clamp down on illegal immigration and encourage settlers who cannot find jobs to return to their countries of origin.

In Brussels, where the immigrant population is heaviest, some local councils are refusing to register new arrivals, while others are tightening the rules for issuing identity cards.

Immigrant welfare groups say foreigners are experiencing increasing harassment and racial prejudice, not least from public officials.

Diplomats from countries such as Algeria and Morocco have had several meetings with Belgian ministers to seek assurances that the rights of their citizens will be protected.

Common Market statistics show that more than 14 percent of Belgium's work force is jobless. But an Arab League spokesman said that immigrants should not be made scapegoats for the recession.

Officials of the Belgian League for the Defense of Human Rights said that intolerance shown toward

immigrants increased during and after the campaign for nationwide communal elections in October. Including citizens of other European Community countries, there are almost one million foreigners living in Belgium, almost 10 percent of the population.

But in some poorer parts of Brussels, more than a quarter of the residents are immigrants, and the concentrations of Turks and North Africans attract the greatest controversy.

Roger Nols, the first local mayor to stop registering newcomers from outside the Common Market, has ordered the closure of 10 primary schools used mainly by immigrant children.

Mr. Nols has also proposed that school classes in his inner-city district of Schaerbeek be divided into strong and weak sections, a move that critics say will produce racial segregation.

Mr. Nols said the 10 schools due to close were in bad repair and that Schaerbeek's depressed finances could not save them without increased aid from the national government.

The government has declared that it will fight the school closures, but Mr. Nols is no longer a lone voice in opposing new registrations of immigrants.

Several other districts have started

to refuse new arrivals the identity cards they need to qualify for educational, social welfare and other benefits.

Others issue the cards only after long delays in which applicants are checked to see that their incomes are adequate and that their living quarters are clean and not overcrowded.

The government now says it is preparing to give its approval to the nonregistration of new immigrants in some districts that have special problems of civic and individual poverty, dense population, urban decay and delinquency.

Like other West European countries, Belgium welcomed immigrant workers from poorer lands in the prosperous 1960s and early 1970s to do mainly the hard or dirty jobs.

Legal immigration of non-Common Market workers stopped years ago, but the government now proposes tightening the rules on family reunions for those already here to exclude all but close relatives.

Mr. Gol's spokesman said relatively recent arrivals who were out of work would be encouraged to go home.

Mr. Gol has condemned racism and xenophobia, but representatives of the main immigrant groups are anxiously waiting to see what his detailed plans are.

Suspected Soviet Spy Freed on Bail in Italy

The Associated Press

ROME — A Soviet citizen arrested Feb. 24 in Italy on charges of complicity in military spying was released Thursday on bail of 50 million lire (\$34,800), officials reported.

Details of the charges against the man, Victor Komarov, an official of a Soviet-Italian oil company, have never been released, but Italian newspapers have said that he was the paymaster in a spy ring that included another Soviet citizen who is still in jail.

The man, Victor Komarov, an official of a Soviet-Italian oil company, have never been released, but Italian newspapers have said that he was the paymaster in a spy ring that included another Soviet citizen who is still in jail.

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Dow Jones Averages

| | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| 30 Ind | 1116.29 | 1122.39 | 1106.71 | 1117.45 | +2.16 |
| 500 Ind | 121.36 | 122.00 | 120.25 | 121.25 | +0.09 |
| 500 Ind | 121.36 | 122.00 | 120.25 | 121.25 | +0.09 |

Standard & Poor's Index

| | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Composite | 150.28 | 150.80 | 149.76 | 150.79 | +0.51 |
| Industrials | 148.03 | 148.60 | 147.00 | 147.93 | +0.90 |
| Utilities | 61.72 | 61.93 | 61.72 | 61.82 | +0.10 |
| Transp. | 26.70 | 26.76 | 26.55 | 26.65 | +0.15 |

Odd-Lot Trading in N.Y.

| | Buy | Sell | Net |
|----------|---------|---------|----------|
| April 8 | 215,000 | 416,000 | -201,000 |
| April 7 | 220,000 | 420,000 | -200,000 |
| April 6 | 220,000 | 420,000 | -200,000 |
| March 31 | 200,000 | 375,000 | -175,000 |
| March 30 | 200,000 | 375,000 | -175,000 |

Market Summary, April 7

Market Diaries

| | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| NYSE | 1116.29 | 1122.39 | 1106.71 | 1117.45 | +2.16 |
| AMEX | 121.36 | 122.00 | 120.25 | 121.25 | +0.09 |

AMEX Stock Index

| | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| AMEX | 121.36 | 122.00 | 120.25 | 121.25 | +0.09 |

NYSE Most Actives

| Symbol | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| IBM | 111.00 | 111.50 | 110.50 | 111.00 | +0.50 |
| AT&T | 45.00 | 45.50 | 44.50 | 45.00 | +0.50 |
| GE | 25.00 | 25.50 | 24.50 | 25.00 | +0.50 |

Dow Jones Bond Averages

| | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 10 Year | 101.00 | 101.50 | 100.50 | 101.00 | +0.50 |
| 30 Year | 98.00 | 98.50 | 97.50 | 98.00 | +0.50 |

NYSE Most Actives

| Symbol | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| IBM | 111.00 | 111.50 | 110.50 | 111.00 | +0.50 |
| AT&T | 45.00 | 45.50 | 44.50 | 45.00 | +0.50 |
| GE | 25.00 | 25.50 | 24.50 | 25.00 | +0.50 |

AMEX Most Actives

| Symbol | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| AMEX | 121.36 | 122.00 | 120.25 | 121.25 | +0.09 |

NYSE Most Actives

| Symbol | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| IBM | 111.00 | 111.50 | 110.50 | 111.00 | +0.50 |
| AT&T | 45.00 | 45.50 | 44.50 | 45.00 | +0.50 |
| GE | 25.00 | 25.50 | 24.50 | 25.00 | +0.50 |

Dow Jones Bond Averages

| | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 10 Year | 101.00 | 101.50 | 100.50 | 101.00 | +0.50 |
| 30 Year | 98.00 | 98.50 | 97.50 | 98.00 | +0.50 |

Thursday's NYSE Closing Prices

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street.

Table with multiple columns: 12 Month High, Low, Stock Div., Yld., P/E, 100s, High, Low, Close, Chg. Rows include various stock symbols and their corresponding prices and changes.

NYSE Most Actives

| Symbol | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| IBM | 111.00 | 111.50 | 110.50 | 111.00 | +0.50 |
| AT&T | 45.00 | 45.50 | 44.50 | 45.00 | +0.50 |
| GE | 25.00 | 25.50 | 24.50 | 25.00 | +0.50 |

AMEX Most Actives

| Symbol | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| AMEX | 121.36 | 122.00 | 120.25 | 121.25 | +0.09 |

NYSE Most Actives

| Symbol | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| IBM | 111.00 | 111.50 | 110.50 | 111.00 | +0.50 |
| AT&T | 45.00 | 45.50 | 44.50 | 45.00 | +0.50 |
| GE | 25.00 | 25.50 | 24.50 | 25.00 | +0.50 |

Dow Jones Bond Averages

| | Open | High | Low | Close | Chg |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 10 Year | 101.00 | 101.50 | 100.50 | 101.00 | +0.50 |
| 30 Year | 98.00 | 98.50 | 97.50 | 98.00 | +0.50 |

Canada Expected To Cut Gas Price

By Robert D. Hershey Jr.

New York Times Service
WASHINGTON — The Canadian government, faced with a possible loss of markets, appears to have decided to cut the price of its natural gas exports to the United States by an amount roughly comparable to last month's oil price cut by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.
Canada, according to trade sources, would reduce the current price of \$4.94 per million British thermal units by some 50 cents for volumes now being taken and would also offer temporary discounts to about \$3.30 for additional amounts of gas.
Canadian Energy Minister Jean Chretien, meeting with reporters after talks Wednesday with Donald P. Hodel, the U.S. energy secretary, expressed Canada's "flexibility" on gas export prices but did not directly address the specifics of the reported plan.
However, Mr. Chretien also warned Mr. Hodel against pressing the current U.S. bargaining advantage too hard because, he said, the excess gas supply would last no more than two more winters.
The issue of Canadian gas prices has become a subject of hot debate both within and between the two countries in light of the present conditions of oversupply in the United States and the availability to U.S. pipelines of less expensive gas.
The United States imports from Canada about 4 percent of the gas it consumes, and an additional 1 percent or so comes from Mexico under terms related to the basic agreement with Canada. The United States also buys tiny amounts of liquefied natural gas from Algeria.

COMPANY EARNINGS

Revenue and profits, in millions, are in local currencies unless otherwise indicated.

| Britain | | France | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Ref Industries | Revenue: 11,370 Profit: 1,300 | Credit Lyonnais | Revenue: 192 Profit: 192 |
| Int'l Thomson | Revenue: 1,300 Profit: 1,300 | United States | Revenue: 192 Profit: 192 |
| Abbott Laboratories | Revenue: 1,300 Profit: 1,300 | | |

Table with multiple columns: Company Name, Revenue, Profit. Rows include various international companies and their financial data.

(Continued on Page 10)

April 8, 1983

Page 7W

Backstage at the Comédie

by John Russell

PARIS — Fifty years ago there was a standard, preplanned and all but immutable day for the enghiened tourist in Paris. In the afternoon he went to Notre Dame, or to the Invalides, or up the Eiffel Tower. And then, after an early and very good dinner, he went to the Comédie Française.

Something was quintessentially right about that order of things. French literature was then taught very largely in terms of the French classical theater. We wept for the high-minded lovers in Racine's "Bérénice." We laughed our heads off when Orgon hid under the table in Molière's "Tartuffe." We marveled at the verbal swordplay in Beaumarchais's "Barber of Seville." And the best place to see those plays was the Comédie Française, where words long beaten into us at school came alive once and for all. What better way could there be to spend an evening in Paris?

And we did indeed take an intense pleasure in those evenings. Conceivably they lacked something of snap and scandal. New plays and new ideas were not often put forward on the hallowed boards; and sometimes the company seemed to have performed this or that play just once too often. (They weren't all great plays, by the way. And during one of them Pierre Dux, for many years the mainstay of the company, was famous for being able to do six-figure multiplication sums in his head while on stage.)

But in the world of the theater, where all else is flux and reflux, the Comédie Française stood for stability and continuity. What other company had lasted uninterrupted for 250 years? In how many other places did actors and actresses have tenure? Nor was any other national repertory quite so rich. England and Germany had had periods of stagnation, but in France, the succession had run almost uninter- ruptedly from Molière, Racine and Corneille to François Mauriac, whose play "Astruc" was the novelty of the Comédie Française in the late 1930s.

All these things are still true today, and con-

trary to rumor the Comédie Française has not gone to rust. But for a number of reasons — not the least of which is that it is quite difficult to get tickets — it has fallen out of the pre-planned tourist program. French is no longer taught so widely in terms of "Phèdre" and "Le Misanthrope." People who love the French theater were more likely to go off last season to Lyons for its four-hour "Peer Gynt" and to the suburbs of Lille for a production of Racine that broke new ground. You can no longer go to the Comédie Française on impulse, and most people prefer the movies anyway.

Nor does the Comédie Française beg for their attention. It does not even look like a theater, for instance. Only the telltale hump on its back reveals it as what it is — a great town-house in which a no-less-great theater happens to be seated. It never has names in lights. Its playbills are informative, but they are small and make no attempt to seduce. Names, dates and times are all that they have to give. The great building is surrounded at street level by arcades that keep us dry in bad weather but have none of the jazzy, high-spirited, come-on character of commercial theaters.

The difference is even more marked if we happen to pay a call backstage. In most Parisian theaters the *entrée des artistes* is a slot in the wall, the stage-door keeper is both wary and dismissive and the dressing rooms look like an Albanian jail. But at the Comédie Française the stage-door keeper is every bit as polite as the concierge at the Ritz. Corridors are wide, footfalls are soft, ceilings are high. Very good paintings hang here and there, and very good marble busts line the walls. The elevators run on velvet. (Each floor is named, by the way, after a great actor or actress from the past — Talma, Samson, Mère, Rachel, Préville.) Huge pieces of country house furniture stand around — sofas for seven, armchairs deeper than the sea, desks and tables of museum quality. You would never guess that you were in a theater.

As for the dressing rooms, they are large, comfortable and personal in the very highest degree. Each member of the troupe has a room of his or her own to do up as he or she pleases. All whims are indulged. Memory and imagin-

ation walk arm in arm. Personalities begin strong and get even stronger. Nothing is held back. To walk from one to another of these delicious dens is to move from one world of fantasy to another. It is in these dens, as much as on the stage, that the Comédiens Français are truly themselves.

Unlike most other theaters, the Comédie Française is used to looking after itself. Most of its plays are costume plays, for instance. The costumes in question are made in the house by tailors and tailresses who have at their command a whole gamut of skills and specialties that elsewhere are quite extinct. Working with instruments that have been out of style since the 18th century, they aim at a fanatical perfection.

That perfection applies to what the audience sees — the cut of a coat, the buttoning of a dress, the precise angle of the brim of a hat. But it also applies to what the audience doesn't see and will never see. If shirt-sleeves were pleated in a particular way in Molière's day, that is how they are going to be pleated in the fall of 1982, even if the actor in question never has to take off his jacket.

The attic workshops of the Comédie Française are a school of perfection, in which things are done the way they have always been done and only shoes are ordered from outside. (Individual measurements for everything else have been kept forever, and students of human development may like to note that actors and actresses have been getting steadily taller over the last 300 years.) And the perfection of those workshops is an active, inventive, resourceful perfection. Nothing gives greater pleasure to those ingenious ladies than a new set of challenges.

Still, there's more to a great theater than dressing up. A great theater is about loyalty for instance. Visitors to the private rooms of the Comédie Française are shown the memorial plaque to an actor called Hippolyte Labrousse, who during the French Revolution saved the lives of five other members of the troupe. (Finding that they were on the next day's list for execution, he got hold of the list, tore it up, and swallowed it.)

A great theater also moves with the times. The Comédie Française used to be an actors' theater, pure and simple. The company knew what to do, and they went ahead and did it with a minimum of interference from anyone else. But we live in a period of directors' theater, in which the public expects a great play to be redefined by the director. That is why an Englishman, Terry Hands, was invited over from London to direct Shakespeare, and why "Waiting for Godot" was directed by its original director, Roger Blin, when it made it to the Comédie Française some 20 years after it was first performed.

In this and other respects the Comédie Française has gone along with the separation of powers that is one of the marks of modern theater. Sarah Bernhardt would have been amazed, for instance, to know that in the 1980s the lighting man would have a credit line all to himself and that the stage designer would be a tyrant only a little less autocratic than the director. (The set for the production of Corneille's "Sertorius" weighs a ton and a half.) Yet it was thanks to the new hierarchies of power that Goldoni's "La Locandiera" was the great triumph of the Comédie Française last season. With light, color and just a handful of everyday objects magic was made before even the first lines were spoken.

In an ordinary theater that production would have run for a year. But it is the paradox of the Comédie Française that the better the production, the less likely we are to see it. Not only is a great part of every performance sold out in advance by subscription, but the seating capacity of the auditorium has been getting steadily smaller. The great little house used to admit around 1,900 people. But an untold number of those people could see only out of the stage, and another untold number had to stand up at the back of a box if they wanted to see anything at all.

For this reason the boxes were abolished — though one very grand one is still the prerogative of the head of the state — and the partial-view seats were also abolished wherever possible. If I go on to say that the number of available seats is now estimated at 892 it will be clear that it takes real work to get into the theater at all.

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Michael Ende.

The Fantasy of Michael Ende: Always Playing With Mirrors

by Vicky Elliott

MUNICH — There was a time when Germany did a brisk business in exporting fairy stories, and gingerbread houses, and volutes circulated to parts of Europe that had none before. But in West Germany in the early 1970s, when Michael Ende moved from Munich to Rome, imagination was out and social realism was in.

Ende had already published a successful children's book that included a steam engine that sailed and a camel on skates. "I was tired of having to justify myself and my work," he says, "so I went somewhere where the weather was warmer and the cultural atmosphere more tolerant."

Today, West German bookshops have whole displays of the literature of fantasy, with a strong showing of J.R.R. Tolkien among the volumes of E.T.A. Hoffmann and the brothers Grimm. But the reigning monarch is Michael Ende. Two of his books, "Momo" (first published in 1973) and "The Never-Ending Story" ("Die unendliche Geschichte," 1979) have been at the top of Der Spiegel's best-seller list for no less than two years, selling 1 million and more than 900,000 copies respectively. And bubbling out of sight on the children's book list, "Jim Knopf und Lukas the Engine Driver," Ende's first children's classic, has also sold more than a million copies.

The fairy-tale exports have started up again. "Momo," a fable of one small girl's fight against an army of gray and bowler-hatted Time Thieves, has been translated into 26 languages, while "The Never-Ending Story," a book bound in copper-colored silk and printed in red and green, is into its seventh printing in Spain and a best seller in Italy and Sweden, among other countries. A \$30-million film version, billed as the most expensive German film ever made, and directed by Wolfgang Petersen, who made "Das Boot," is cooking in Munich, London and Hollywood. In Britain, Penguin, which paid an advance on the book of a sum on the high side of six figures, is unusually, to bring the book out in hardback, and an American edition, translated by Ralph Manheim, will appear this fall.

Ende, 53, is still living in the hills south of Rome in what he has named Casa Licconio (Unicorn House). He leaves his hair occasionally, and was in Munich the other day signing copies of a new edition of "Jim Knopf," with deliciously flippant illustrations by Reinhard Michl, before he flew to Heidelberg and rehearsals of his play "Das Ganklermährchen" (The Story of the Juggler).

His books are inhabited by prescient tortoises and wicked sorceresses and heroes with a change of armor in their luggage, but Ende insists he does not write for children. "I have always written what I would like to read," he says. He has a Christmasy look, with a silvery beard and crimson cheeks, and when he smiles, his eyes are unclouded, like a saffron moon's. He has spent a long time — 30 years, he says — reading the mystics, occult and Oriental.

He says he thinks his work is successful because people woke up again one day to the pleasure of reading. "It had nothing to do with the quality of my books," he insists. "Everyone was tired of being told that reality was frightful, and they were ready for a bit of optimism." He doesn't make the obvious connection with the tapering off of West Germany's economic miracle.

Tolkien got to West Germany late, in 1973, according to Hansjörg Weidbrecht, Ende's publisher, who should know about the trend, since his tiny Stuttgart publishing house, Thienemann, staffed by 15, took off with "The Never-Ending Story" in 1979 and hasn't looked back since.

Weidbrecht brought out a transcript last year of a conversation between Ende, Hanne Fichtl, who works in community theater in Stuttgart, and the Social Democrat politician Erhard Eppler, modestly called "Phantasie/Kultur/Politik." Some of Ende's readers felt this was going a bit too far into the realm of the didactic.

But Ende, though he does, in his own way, like to explain things, always keeps at least a toe on terra firma. His characters always come back to earth, strengthened by the proving fire of his adventures.

He has sharp words, in "The Never-Ending Story," for "books in which dull, cranky writers describe humdrum events in the very hum-

drum lives of humdrum people." Ende prefers not to distinguish between fantasy and reality, and deals in the Inner and the Outer. He places himself squarely in the Romantic tradition — his father, Edgar Ende, was one of Germany's first Surrealist painters. "People think that Romanticism is looking at sunsets," he says. "But it is necessary to poeticize the world, otherwise we can't find any values in it."

He is always playing with mirrors. In "The Never-Ending Story," Bastian, a lumpy boy of about 10, first sees his ideal counterpart, Atreju, in a mirror in the school attic to which he has fled with his stolen copper-colored book. In "Momo," the great story-spinner, Guido, takes his friend into the world of a magic mirror that is almost the moon. Ende's next book, "The Mirror in the Mirror," is a chain of stories, each linked to the next by an image picked up in the last one. Ende is busy working now to make them meet up.

The mirror is the book, and the reader has to look into it to find his own story. "It's as if you were sitting in front of a wall," Ende says, leaning forward in the plush sofa and beginning to look like a sociology professor behind his glasses. "A wall covered in cracks and wet patches. After a bit, you begin to see shapes. But each person will interpret them differently."

It would seem that such a protean outlook, as embodied in the books he has already published, is good for sales. Ende's fan mail comes from lawyers and adolescents and women who work in factories and parents who were only reading to the children.

They all pull something out of "The Never-Ending Story," with its 26 chapters each headed by a letter of the alphabet. There is a Boschian scene in the book in which Bastian comes upon thwarted emperors playing a kind of monkey's Scrabble and hoping to hit on a mix of letters that makes sense. "All the stories ever written," says Ende, "can be boiled down into 26 letters, and in a way, that was what I was trying to do in the book." It reads some-

Continued on page 9W

For Italian Art Review, the Beauty Is the Message

by Susan Lunsden

MILAN — The most beautiful magazine in the world, self-proclaimed, is the love child of Franco Maria Ricci, an aristocratic Italian former racing-car champion whose initials, FMR, are the white title on the glossy black cover of this art review.

Each of the 140 pages, whether editorial matter or luxury advertising, seems almost to be a framed painting. Although the magazine's detractors say it's more gloss than substance, after 11 monthly editions in Italian only, FMR has amassed 80,000 readers. Ricci says that FMR now does better business than his foreign competitors and that, as a result, it is scheduled for a French-language edition in May and an English-language one in November.

"After 15 years as a book publisher and graphics designer, I wanted to indulge myself in this little folly," Ricci explains over lunch in Milan's private Club 44, a dash across the courtyard from his offices in the 18th-century Palazzo Visconti di Modrone.

"I hoped that in this wide world there might be other people like me who liked things simply because they were beautiful," Ricci continues. "I did not advertise outside Italy. I didn't even send copies to friends in the United States because I wanted any possible foreign edition to be a surprise, an explosion."

The foreign-language editions are scheduled to have the same four "international" subjects as the Italian edition, plus one "local" subject. A regular and, critics say, most valuable feature is the extensive list of art exhibitions in Europe and North America.

So far, subjects have included not only classical art, of which Italy is the bottomless well, but also scarecrows and slot machines — anything whose form pleases Ricci. So personal is the editing that the April issue contains a youthful photograph and ode to Ricci's mother to mark her 86th birthday.

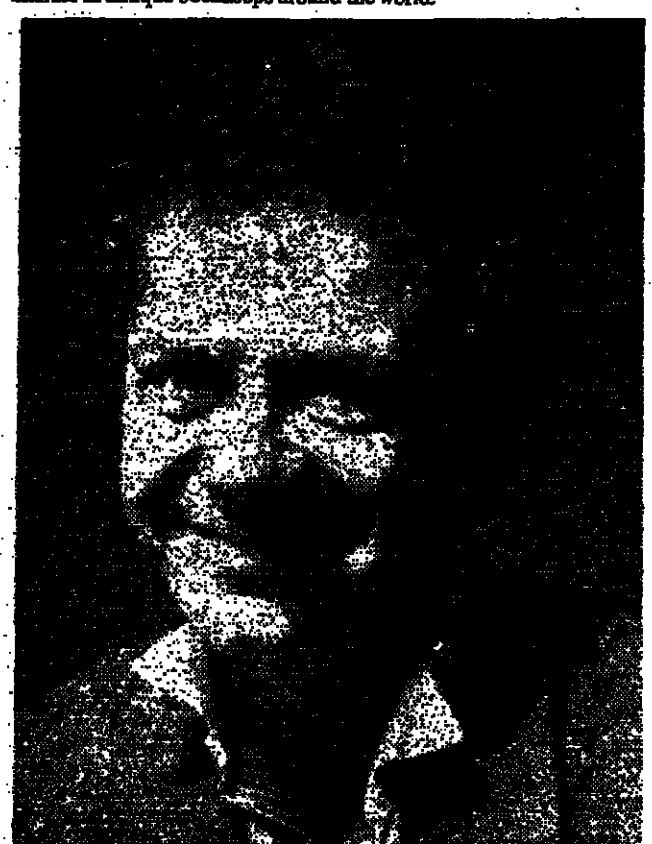
"I could have made money advertising on that page," Ricci states. "No one can say I'm doing this for profit alone. I have the reputation of being the editor of the rich, but this magazine costs less than the other art reviews." The price is 5,500 lire. "That's 30 francs, \$4 or two big pizzas," he adds. "And it's sewn together, not glued."

His enthusiasm goes with a boyish appearance. At 45, Ricci is slim and trim with a small mop of curly hair shot with gray. Photographs sometimes show him unshaven, not an uncommon practice in Italy for the very handsome or rich, or both.

Ricci's editorial career began when his mother gave him 20 million lire to buy a Ferrari. "All my friends were getting killed," he said, "so I thought I should try something else" — after becoming Italian Formula Gran Turismo champion of 1957. His first printing venture had already been successful. An American critic had seen his poster for a university

theater festival in his native Parma and acquired it for the contemporary design section of the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

In the 18th century, Parma had one of the most sophisticated courts in Europe. The court printer was Giambattista Bodoni, the great type designer who was belatedly given his own museum in Parma in 1963. The young Ricci was so taken with the elegance and simplicity of Bodoni print that he set out to find the master typographer's original manual in antique bookshops around the world.



Franco Maria Ricci.

Susan Lunsden.

Unsuccessful, he decided to duplicate the first edition, using 150-year-old printing presses. The "Bodoni Manual" took two years and made a publisher of Ricci. For the next 10 years he worked as a graphics designer to support his expensive book habit.

His publications included the oration of Pope Pius VII on the coronation of Napoleon, "The Lord's Prayer" in 155 languages and a facsimile edition of the Encyclopedia of Diderot and d'Alembert in 18 volumes. Ricci also designed, among other necessities, furniture, corporate logos and the most beautiful bank checks in Italy, complete with frolicking angels and nymphs in the manner of Correggio, who was also from Parma.

His book work is the subject of an exhibition, "Franco Maria Ricci: Editor and Designer" organized in Fiesole, near Florence, through April. Titles range from the "Acts of the Apostles," photographically illustrated with pious medieval sculpture, to the "History of Casanova," pure erotica finely set in comic strips. Interspersed, there is a volume of Victorian children's photographs by Lewis Carroll, "Erie" by Roland Barthes, a volume on the Visconti tarot cards and a series of fantasy literature edited by Jorge Luis Borges.

"Graphics is the missing chapter in the story of Italian design," Ricci feels. "I thought this exhibition might show its importance in everything from fashion to cars. Gutenberg invented modern printing, but Italians refined it and added graphic elegance. That delicate relationship of line to space is what's behind all great Italian design today."

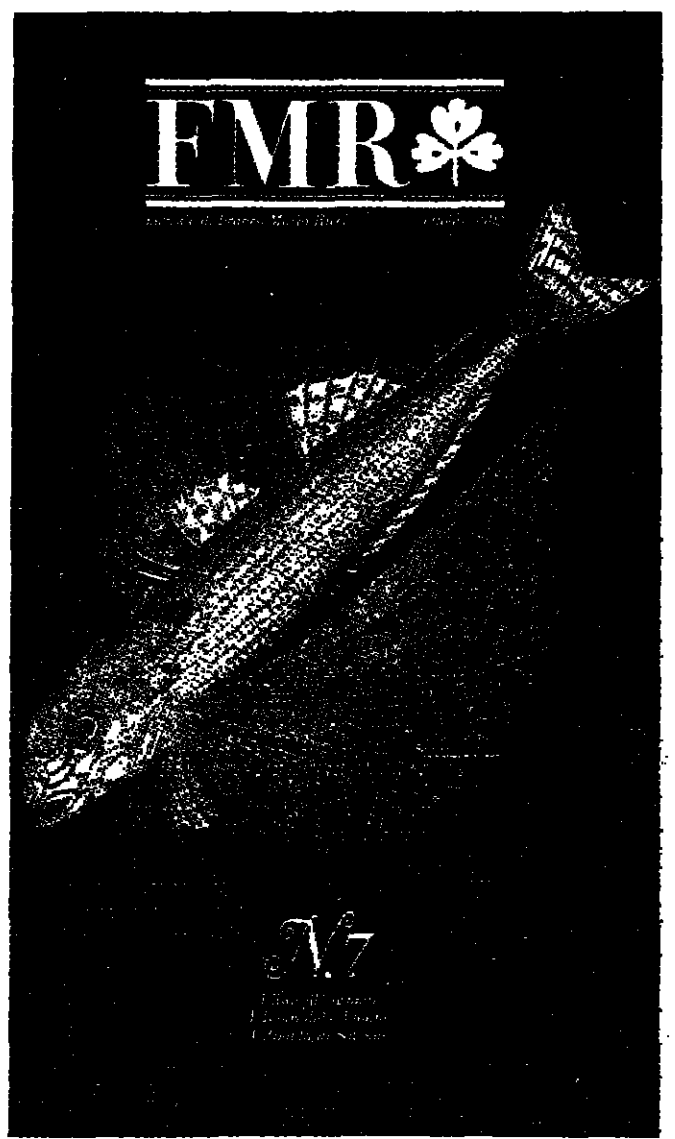
"You have to give a letter of the alphabet the dignity it deserves," he continued. "This becomes clear when you don't know the language. Think of Arabic or Chinese. It's beautiful by itself, an art apart. That's why I published the poems of Mao Zedong in Chinese only. When you know the language you tend to read only the meaning."

The schism between beauty and utility distresses Ricci. "I can't bear these socialists and communists who drink champagne and say my magazine is too beautiful, decadent and elitist." He believes art should be seen more than heard. FMR's photographic illustrations are therefore exhaustive, he says, and accompanied with a text by at least one authority on the subject.

These days Ricci drives a Volkswagen, reserving an old Jaguar for special occasions. It seems ridiculous, even kitsch, he suggests, to have a fast car now that planes are so much more beautiful. Also fading is his propensity for climbing mountains and exploring caves.

His experiments with pure form and quivering extremes have a more spiritual dimension. Ricci says he has a dream of ending up a Jesuit priest in Olinda on the Brazilian coast. "There's a fantastic white monastery with three cloisters," he explains. "The fourth cloister is the sea."

"I'd be the librarian of the monastery."



A glossy cover of the new magazine.

TRAVEL

Immigrant Herbs Go Native

by Sarah Fritschner

WASHINGTON — It takes a tough hillside to make a tender herb.

For centuries the finest sage, oregano, rosemary and thyme have been grown in the rocky mountains of the Mediterranean. The dry, windy conditions are less than hospitable, but the stress on the plants fills their leaves with oil and results in more flavorful herbs.

Just down the hillside, says B.H. Kaestner of the McCormick spice company, are whole villages deserted by residents searching for jobs in cities like Izmir, Turkey, and Athens.

The tourist industry, he says, offers more economic possibilities than scouring the hills for scrubs of herbs. While herbs are still obtained from these markets, the dearth of labor causes their prices to climb. As a result, companies like McCormick and Spice Islands are interested in joining the few domestic herb cultivators who grow herbs on a large scale.

It's tough, however, to reproduce in the United States the flavor of the herbs that grow in barren Mediterranean conditions. The lush, agreeable California environment apparently produces pretty plants of dubious quality.

Basil, dill, tarragon, marjoram (sometimes) and parsley have been cultivated in the United States for many years. But it's difficult to reproduce the flavor of southern Europe's sage, thyme, rosemary and oregano in areas where cultivation and harvest would be economically feasible.

Mexican oregano has replaced much of the Greek imports, according to Thomas Burns, president of the American Spice Trade Association; half of the oregano imported into the United States comes from Mexico. "Botanically, they're two entirely different products," he says.

The Mexican herb is harsher and more biting, but it's appropriate for chili powders, Mexican foods and sometimes sausages. For many years, at least one company has sold Mexican oregano on the U.S. West Coast and Greek-style on the East Coast because of regional preferences. Now, since Mexican oregano is cheaper, says Kaestner, some food processors substitute it for the Greek oregano.

Commercial herb-growers and the government continue to experiment with herb cultivation. The research relies on manipulating the genetic heritage and the environment of the herbs. "This is a field we don't know much about," says Holly Shimizu, curator of the herb garden at the National Arboretum in Washington. "Cultivation of herbs in the United States is really quite new."

So is the popularity of exotic herbs in the United States. Until World War II, sage was the last word in American herb preferences. Although imported spices were common in 1939, Americans relied very little on herbs from southern Europe.

But GIs returned from the war with a taste



Rosemary plant.

for things like pizza and spaghetti, and the popularity of herbs began to grow like a patch of parsley. Herb sales have grown in spurts, first one becoming popular and then another. Between 1940 and 1953 there was a "huge boom" in oregano sales, a 1,400 percent increase in imports, says Marshall Neale, whose firm handles public relations for the American Spice Trade Association. In the mid-1970s there was a 20 percent jump, from 5 million to 6 million pounds. And one ounce of oregano can season 432 slices of pizza.

The darling of this decade appears to be basil, according to Department of Agriculture import figures, which show a threefold increase in imports from 1981 to 1982. The "battle for the spaghetti-sauce market" is partly responsible for this, says Kaestner.

Overall, the preference for Italian food in the United States is so pervasive, says the experts, that you can't even call it ethnic food anymore. That, coupled with what Kaestner calls the "Mexican-food explosion," accounts for the 3,748 metric tons of oregano and the 1,119 metric tons of basil imported last year, and the increasing popularity of the coriander leaves (cilantro or Chinese parsley).

Recent dietary changes have created another type of revolution. Cooks are learning to rely on herbs for flavor rather than fat and salt.

Industry accounts for more than 60 percent of the revolution, according to Neale. Food manufacturers who "are searching for flavor when they cut down on calories and rich ingredients" tend to rely on herbs, he says. Since salt is increasingly frowned upon, food manufacturers turn to herbs for palatability. Burns says that working women use herbs to improve processed foods they rely on.

There's no way to measure domestic herb production in the United States. Alois Pastor won't divulge exactly how much basil, dill and tarragon he grows on his 300-acre herb farm in San Jacinto, California. He is one of very few commercial growers, and his market is a specialized one where looks are as important as flavor.

Pastor, who has been growing herbs since 1949, says that although he is constantly experimenting, there is no way he can match imported sage and other herbs. And the specialists agree that Americans will depend on the European supply for a long time.

GRILLED LEMON CHICKEN WITH OREGANO

(4 servings)
2 pounds boneless chicken breasts, cubed
1/2 pound mushrooms, halved
For the marinade:
1/2 cup white wine
1/2 cup lemon juice
1 1/2 teaspoons oregano
2 cloves garlic, minced

Place chicken and mushrooms in a shallow baking dish. To prepare marinade, place wine, lemon juice, oil, oregano and garlic in a container with a lid and shake to combine. Pour marinade over chicken and mushrooms and refrigerate for 2 hours.

Skewer chicken and mushrooms on four skewers, alternating three pieces of chicken with a mushroom half. Broil for 10 to 15 minutes, turning once or twice. Serve with rice.

PIZZA CACCIA NANZA

(1 round loaf)
2 1/2 cups flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon active dry yeast
1 cup warm water
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 tablespoons oregano
3 tablespoons olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Combine flour, salt, yeast and water in a mixing bowl. Blend well, then turn the dough onto a lightly floured board. Knead well for about 15 minutes and shape the dough into a ball. Place it in a lightly greased mixing bowl. Cover with a towel and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size, about an hour.

Turn the dough onto the board and knead once more. Put it back into the bowl and let rise again. Then punch down the dough and turn it onto a lightly floured board. Roll it out to 1/2-inch thickness. Rub the surface of a baking sheet with oil. Transfer the round of dough to the baking sheet. Make indentations over the surface of the dough and insert a thin sliver of garlic and a bit of rosemary into each indentation. Pour the olive oil over the pizza and rub gently with the hands. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and bake 15 minutes or until golden brown. Brush the garlic away before serving.

—From "Italian Family Cooking"

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TWICE AS FUNNY FOR THE MONEY



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| | \$ | 264 | 132 | 72 |
| | \$ | 352 | 176 | 98 |

INTERNATIONAL DATEBOOK

AUSTRIA

VIENNA, Konzerthaus (tel: 72.12.11).
Grosser Saal — April 11: Natalia Gutman cello, Eliso Wirsaladze piano (Mendelssohn, Prokofiev, Grieg).
April 14: Vienna Symphony Orchestra, Natalia Gutman cello, Christoph Eschenbach conductor (Beethoven, Shostakovich).
JAZZ — April 15: Carla Bley. Museum Moderner Kunst (tel: 78.25.50) — To April 30: Angela Aschmann photography.
April 10: Vienna Symphony Orchestra, Sylvain Cambieng conductor (Prokofiev, Berlioz).
April 15: ORF Symphony Orchestra, Carl Mielles conductor (Schubert, Blacher).
Staatsoper (tel: 52.24/2345).
OPERA — April 9: "Die Entführung aus dem Serail" (Mozart) Theodor Guschlbauer conductor.
April 12 and 15: "Ariadne auf Naxos" (R. Strauss) Christof Prick conductor.
April 11: "The Dream of Gerontius" (Elgar) London Symphony Orchestra, Chorus and Soloists, Richard Hickox conductor.
April 13: Philharmonia Orchestra, Bernard Haitink conductor, Zora Nelsova cello (Elgar).
RECEITAL — April 12: Janet Baker, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Walter Weller conductor (Wagner, Mahler).
Royal Opera House (tel: 240.10.66).
April 9, 12, 15: "Don Quixote" (Verdi) Bernard Haitink conductor.
April 11 and 14: "Don Pasquale" (Donizetti) Guido Ajmone-Marsan conductor.

BRUSSELS

Forêt National (tel: 345.90.50).
April 12: Saxon. Palais des Beaux-Arts (tel: 512.50.45).
CONCERTS — April 13: Collegium Aureum (baroque music).
April 15 and 17: Belgian National Opera, Milos Karadzic conductor, Nelli Skolnik soprano, Volker Horn tenor (Wagner).
RECEITALS — April 12: Annie Fischer piano (Beethoven, Schumann, Schubert).
Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie (tel: 218.12.66).
Cirque Royal — From April 12: "Alexander the Great" (Stravinsky) Brussels National Opera Ballet, Maurice Béjart choreography.

DENMARK

COPENHAGEN, Odd-Fellow Palace (tel: 11.27.22).
April 15: Royal Orchestra, Antoni Ros-Marbà, Anne-Sophie Mutter violin (Verdi, Sibelius, Hindemith, Ravel).
Radio House Concert Hall (tel: 13.45.31) — April 12: Radio Light Orchestra, Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor (Finnish music).
April 14: Radio Symphony Orchestra, Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor (Haydn, Strauss, Beethoven).
April 15: Museum of Fine Arts (tel: 11.21.26) — To Aug. 21: "Picture of a Lady" (Dürer) to Rembrandt.

ENGLAND

LONDON, Apollo Victoria Theatre (tel: 834.61.77).
BALLET — To April 23: Wayne Sleep with Dast. Barbican Centre (tel: 628.87.95).
Barbican Art Gallery — To April 10: "Rodin and His Contemporaries, Auguste Rodin." Barbican Hall — April 9: Dave Brubeck.
April 11: Buddy Rich and Orchestra. Barbican Theatre — April 9-16: "The Taming of the Shrew," Royal Shakespeare Company.
The Pit — April 9-16: "Antony and Cleopatra," Royal Shakespeare Company.
British Museum (tel: 636.15.55) — To April 10: "Edo: Art of Japan 17th-19th Century." To April 24: "Mantegna to Cézanne: Master Drawings from the Courtauld."
Dominion Theatre (tel: 580.95.62).
ROCK — April 9 and 10: Leo Sayer. April 13 and 14: Manfred Mann's Earth Band.
Hamstead Theatre (tel: 722.93.01) — Through April: "Short List" (Rudman) with Ian McKellen.
London Coliseum (tel: 836.31.61) — April 10: "The Barber of Seville" (Rossini).
April 13: "Rusalka" (Dvorak) Lionel Friend conductor.
April 12 and 15: "The Force of Destiny" (Verdi) John Mauceri conductor.
April 14: "Die Fledermaus" (J. Strauss) Herbert Prikopa conductor.
Lyric Theatre Hammersmith (tel: 741.23.11).
From April 14: "Edmund Kean" Ben Kingsley's one-man show.
National Theatre (tel: 928.22.52).
Olivier Theatre — April 9, 11, 12, 13: "The Rivals" (Sheridan).
"Odeon Hammersmith" (tel: 748.40.81).
ROCK — April 14 and 15: UFO. Royal Festival Hall (tel: 928.31.91).
CONCERTS — April 10: London Symphony Orchestra, André Previn conductor, Irshak Perlman violin (Dvorak, Debussy).
April 11: "The Dream of Gerontius" (Elgar) London Symphony Orchestra, Chorus and Soloists, Richard Hickox conductor.
April 13: Philharmonia Orchestra, Bernard Haitink conductor, Zora Nelsova cello (Elgar).
RECEITAL — April 12: Janet Baker, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Walter Weller conductor (Wagner, Mahler).
Royal Opera House (tel: 240.10.66).
April 9, 12, 15: "Don Quixote" (Verdi) Bernard Haitink conductor.
April 11 and 14: "Don Pasquale" (Donizetti) Guido Ajmone-Marsan conductor.

FRANCE

PARIS, Cavaud de la Huchette (tel: 326.65.05).
JAZZ — April 6-10: Memphis Slim. Centre Georges Pompidou (tel: 277.12.33).
EXHIBITIONS — To April 25: "Georges de la Tour." To May 23: Yves Klein. La Chapelle des Lombards (tel: 357.24.24).
April 9-12: Pierre Balmain and Canal Comby, West Indian music. Musée du Grand Palais (tel: 261.54.10) — To May 16: "Claude Gellée dit Le Lorrain." Musée du Luxembourg (tel: 260.39.26) — To April 24: "From the Burgundians to Ravel." Musée Rodin (tel: 555.17.61) — To May 30: "From Carpeaux to Matisse." French sculpture 1850-1914. "Nouvel Hippodrome" (tel: 245.88.11).
JAZZ — April 12 and 13: Miles Davis. Opéra de Paris (tel: 742.57.50).
Paris Opera Ballet — April 9-20: Ballet Evening. Paris Opera — April 12, 15: "Erzsetze" (Chaynes) "I Pagliacci" (Leoncavallo) Elgar Horowitz conductor. Palais des Congrès (tel: 758.27.27).
MUSICAL — Through April: "L'Amant" (Fosse).
Salle Favart (tel: 296.12.20).
Paris Opera — April 11, 13: "La Traviata" (Verdi) Alain Lombard conductor.
Salle Gaveau (tel: 563.20.30).
RECEITALS — April 12: Irshak Perlman violin, Vladimir Ashkenazy piano (Brahms).
Salle Pleyel (tel: 563.07.96) — April 13-15: Maurice André trumpet, Daniel Barenboim conductor (Beethoven, Haydn, Brahms).
Théâtre des Champs-Élysées (tel: 723.47.77).
OPERA — April 9: "Rigoletto" (Verdi) Opéra de Basel, Armin Jordan conductor.
Théâtre Musical de Paris, Châtelet (tel: 261.19.83).
London Festival Ballet — April 9 and 10: "Cinderella" (Adam).
April 12-17: "La Sylphide" (Lovenjöld).

GERMANY

BERLIN, Deutsche Oper (tel: 341.44.49).
BALLET — April 9: "Tutankhamun" (Arnaud) Michel Tabachnik conductor. Moses Fendelton choreography.
April 10: "Der Idiot" (Shostakovich) Valery Panov choreography.
OPERA — April 11: "Boris Godunov" (Mussorgsky).
April 12: "Aida" (Verdi).
April 15: "La Bohème" (Puccini).
Hochschule der Künste (tel: 31.63.83).
April 9: Berlin Symphony Orchestra, Theodore Bloomfield conductor.

HAYDN, MOZART, HINDEMITH, DVOŘAK

RECEITAL — April 15: Vladimir Kravjnov piano (Chopin, Prokofiev).
Nationalgalerie (tel: 2666). — To April 10: "Ferdinand Hodler" paintings.
Philharmonie (tel: 26.92.51).
April 10: Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra and St. Hedwig's Cathedral choir, Roland Bader conductor (Bruckner).
April 12 and 13: Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Colin Davis conductor, Claudio Arrau piano (Brahms, Berg).
April 15: Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski conductor, Alexis Weissenberg piano (Chopin, Ravel).
Quasimodo (tel: 312.80.86).
JAZZ — April 12: Michael Gregory Jackson Group.
FRANKFURT, Alte Oper (tel: 134.00).
Grosser Saal — April 15: Murray Perahia piano (Schubert, Chopin).
Hindemith Saal — April 9: John Cage.
Café Theater (tel: 63.64.64).
English-Speaking Theater — April 9-16: "Importance of Being Earnest" (Wilde).
Jahresanderhalle Hoechst (tel: 30.10.56).
CONCERTS — April 13: Sinfonia of England, George Malcolm conductor 10: "The Best of Bill Brandt" photography. EXHIBITION — To April 10: Ben Altkerman. To May 1: Town Planning and Architecture in Amsterdam.

NETHERLANDS

AMSTERDAM, Concertgebouw (tel: 71.58.71).
April 9: Amsterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Ken-Ichiro Kobayashi conductor, Saskia Gerritsen soprano (J. Strauss).
April 13-15: Concertgebouw Orchestra, Kurt Sanderling conductor, Bella Davidovich piano (Haydn, Schumann, Shostakovich).
RECEITAL — April 11: Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau baritone, Hartmut Holl piano (Brahms).
JAZZ — April 12: Michael Gregory Jackson Group.
EXHIBITIONS — To June: Treasures from the wreck of De Witte Leeuw. To June: Pieter Boerma and Ed van der Elken, photographs. Stedelijk Museum (tel: 73.21.66).
EXHIBITION — To April 10: Ben Altkerman. To May 1: Town Planning and Architecture in Amsterdam.

SCOTLAND

EDINBURGH, National Portrait Gallery (tel: 556.89.21) — To April 10: "The Best of Bill Brandt" photography. Queen's Hall (tel: 228.11.55).
April 10: "Camille" (Adrian Shepherd conductor, John Grove trumpet, Richard Corelli, Widmann, V. Wald, Scardani).
JAZZ — April 15: Phillips, McColl, Condon Trio. April 12: Loudon Wainwright III. Glasgow, City Hall (tel: 652.59.61).
CONCERT — April 9: "Messiah" (Handel), Scottish National Orchestra and Choir, Neeme Järvi conductor. Theatre Royal (tel: 331.12.34).
Ballet — April 12-14: "Swan Lake" (Tchaikovsky). Scottish Opera — April 9: "Wozzeck" (Berg) Simon Rattle conductor.

SPAIN

MADRID, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo (tel: 449.71.50) — From April 15: "Dali." Teatro de la Zarzuela (tel: 429.62.16).
OPERA — April 9: "Elisir d'Amore" (Donizetti) José María Cervera conductor. Teatro Real (tel: 248.38.95) — April 9 and 10: Spanish National Orchestra and Choir, Jesús López Cobos conductor (Schumann).
RECEITAL — April 12: Narciso Yepes guitar.

SWITZERLAND

GENEVA, Grand Théâtre (tel: 112.31.11).
OPERA — April 10: "Death in Venice" (Britten).
RECEITAL — April 11: Ruggero Raimondi. Petit Palais (tel: 46.14.33).
EXHIBITION — Through April: "L'hotte et les Individualités du Cuisinier." Victoria Hall (tel: 28.31.21) — April 15: Prague Symphony Orchestra, Jiri Belohlavek conductor (Brahms, Martinu).
April 13: Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Bernhard Klee conductor, Radu Lupu piano (Schnebel, Schumann, Franck).
RECEITAL — April 14: Irshak Perlman violin, Vladimir Ashkenazy piano (Brahms).

UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, Museum of Modern Art (tel: 708.94.00) — Through May 15: "Prints from Blocks: Guggenheim." From April 14: Big Pictures by Contemporary Photographers. Whitney Museum (tel: 570.36.33) — Through May 22: 1983 Biennial.

WEEKEND

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TRAVEL

Getting Around and Getting Along in Moscow

by John F. Burns

MOSCOW — Moscow may be a drab city by the standards of the other great capitals of Europe, but there can be few cities anywhere that look so much their best in winter. Although this season has been frosty, with little or no snow until late January, the city can usually count on a winterlong covering by the early days of December, and it can last until May. The white blanket lends a softness to the forbidding outlines of Soviet architecture, and masks acres of mud and scrubland in the suburbs.

The pastel-painted mansions that survive from czarist days look even more magnificent against the snow, and Red Square, breathing with the Kremlin palaces to one side and the onion domes of St. Basil's Cathedral to another, is magical in deep winter.

Napoleon and Hitler saw to it that the Moscow winter would have an enduring reputation, but the severity of it can be overcome. Anybody who has spent a January day in Chicago or Minneapolis can take the Soviet capital in stride, particularly if he or she comes equipped with the best in Western winter clothing.

Old hands in Siberia chuckle at Westerners struggling to deal with temperatures of 60 degrees below, but the average Muscovite would gladly get his hands on an American parka and lined winter boots. If the Soviet Union has anything to teach the visitor about handling the cold it is in headgear. A Russian fur hat, particularly the bulky variety with flaps, can perform wonders. Russians will tell you that 80 percent of body heat is lost through the head, and they may be right.

At all events, you'd walk a long way on, Gorky Street in January to find a Muscovite without a shapka. If you are coming on business, it might be best to pack rubber overshoes. They may not be the height of fashion on Fifth Avenue, but New York's snow-clearing crews do a better job than their Moscow counterparts, who rely heavily on the elbow power of batteries of middle-aged and elderly women, the legendary babushki, who can be seen outside doors and gateways at 3 A.M. fighting snowstorms with flat-ended shovels. Too often, the result is streets and sidewalks choking with impacted snow and rutted ice, or worse, in a thaw, with ankle-deep slush. With overshoes, you'll have some chance of keeping your best brogues dry.

A few other basic tips. Moscow has one of the world's finest subway systems, and undoubtedly the cleanest, so you may choose to move about the city the way most Russians do, on the Metro. (The fare is the equivalent of about 7 cents.) In winter it is also warm, and there are enough stations in the central area to provide a convenient sanctuary from the cold at walking intervals of 10 minutes or less. But it is closed from 1 to 6 A.M. for cleaning, so if you've been out for an evening with Russian friends, or for a walk after the theater, it is useful to know how to hail a cab.

The Soviet cabbies have mores not much different from some of his less

gracious counterparts elsewhere, so don't be surprised if he barrels past you with an empty car or speeds away from the curb as you approach. But in a country where favors and inducements have been raised to a fine art, there are ways to win even the hardest back's heart. Hold two, three or four fingers in the air to indicate the multiple of the official fare you're prepared to pay — more if necessary — and your luck may change.

Don't be surprised — or refuse — if an obviously official black sedan pulls up and offers to take the fare. Moonlighting is a way of life for official drivers, and the penalty if they're caught is likely to be theirs.

Western travelers generally visit Moscow to satisfy their curiosity more than for fun, but there are many ways nonetheless that visitors can entertain themselves between November and April, the margins of winter. Almost all the city's cultural assets — the great art galleries and museums, the Kremlin, the 30 drama, opera and ballet theaters, the four concert halls and two circuses — have full winter programs, and while getting tickets can confound the average Russian, the state tourist monopoly, Intourist, will do its level best to fit Westerners in.

Moscow will favor the Bolshoi Ballet, but don't be too disappointed if there's nothing scheduled or you can't get in. For cognoscenti, there are experimental dance and theater troupes. Indeed, if anything you need to know about the city's cultural life is not available in the standard guidebooks or the Intourist brochures you'll find in your hotel, the embassy people will help out. They understand the difficulties confronting newcomers, particularly those who speak no Russian.

For outdoor pleasure, you might try one of the special trips that Intourist can lay on. There are trolly rides in the Park of Economy, a 15-minute cab ride from the center of the city, and while there you could also look in at the space exhibit, which displays some of the capsules and rockets that have carried more than 100 Soviet cosmonauts into orbit.

Intourist also organizes a day's cross-country skiing outside the capital, with boots, poles and skis provided. Almost anywhere outside the city, skiing is a delight. A good choice is Peredelkino, the writers' and artists' community half an hour south of the city, where tracks running for miles through snowy birch forests and out into open landscapes will remind you of "Dr. Zhivago." Here and there the vista is spoiled by the concrete buildings of the city's outskirts, but what you will remember most are the simple cottages, many of them constructed of logs, that dot the village outskirts.

After an hour or two of exercise, and before the light fails — as early as 4:15 P.M. in midwinter — you could ask your driver to take you across to the cemetery where Boris Pasternak is buried in a glade of pine trees, and walk from there to the nearby Preobrazhenskaya Church, dating from the 15th century, where on weekend evenings you'll find a service in progress. About half a mile back up the road to Moscow, down a lane to the right, is the gabled dacha where Pasternak wrote many of his poems and stories, as well as "Dr. Zhivago."

If you've worked up an appetite and would like to spend a little more time in the countryside, Peredelkino is only a few miles from the city. The restaurant that many Westerners living in Moscow consider to be the best for an evening out. It's the Russkaya Izba, or Russian Cottage, and stands by a bridge across the Moscow River in the village of Uspenskoye, briefly in the news last year as the site of a diplomatic head that was headed to U.S. Embassy personnel in capital for a decision barring Soviet diplomats from community recreation facilities in Glen Cove, New York.

The good news about the Russkaya Izba starts with the building. Constructed of split pine trunks inside and out, it is a replica of the cottages that wealthier peasants lived in for centuries. It is warm and cozy inside on a cold night, and diners are divided among several private rooms, each with a different motif. A band plays only on weekends, a blessing in a country where live restaurant music tends to be cacophonous.

The food is good, occasionally excellent, another rarity. Start with the rich variety of zakuski (hors d'oeuvres), and go on to a main course, perhaps a stew. The waiters keeping you piled with wine and vodka wear traditional peasant shirts. Best of all, they will make you feel as if they're glad to have you, a change from many Soviet restaurants where the waiters' main goal seems to be to drive you away.

The Izba's secret is partly in arrangements that provide the staff with incentives linked to receipts and partly in the location — in lovely rolling countryside that also serves as a retreat for many of the top



Red Square and the line for Lenin's Tomb, with St. Basil's and the Kremlin in the background.

Kremlin leaders. While you're dining you may catch a glimpse of Russian groups that seem quite different from the people you'll meet elsewhere: the men well groomed, the women dressed in European fashions. Nobody will tell you who they are, but the chances are that you're rubbing shoulders with the Soviet elite, maybe a senior official and his family, or a film director and his mistress.

Not surprisingly, the restaurant attracts good custom, so it's best to book (tel: 561-4244). If you are going there from central Moscow, allow 40 minutes by taxi, which will cost 10 to 12 rubles (about \$14 to \$16.80). Meals run to the equivalent of \$37 a person, but can be cheaper.

For those who prefer their pleasures less elaborate, there is nothing better than a walk. A stroll in one of the parks, Gorky or Sokolniki, can be a delight. You'll find skaters and skiers in both, and in Gorky Park, alongside the Moscow River, the skaters zip along the pathways specially tended for them.

The amusement park that draws the crowds in summer is silent in winter, but there are stalls that serve a variety of Russian sausage (greasy to the Western taste) and tea. For those who enjoyed Martin Cruz Smith's best-selling thriller, there is the intrigue of figuring out where the murders at the center of the plot occurred.

In the heart of the city, you could spend the whole day walking, browsing in the stores, and never be bored. Get a city map from Intourist and head for Kalinin Prospekt, the closest Moscow equivalent to Fifth Avenue, or for Gorky Street, for window-shopping.

On Gorky Street is Gastronom Number One, popularly known as Yeliseyev's, after the proprietor of what in czarist days was the most celebrated delicatessen in Moscow. What is left of it today is an impressive neo-baroque interior and, if you can stand the press of people lining up, a still respectable selection of sweets and other delicacies.

Nobody should visit the capital without walking up Prospekt Marx

from the Kremlin and into Dzerzhinsky Square, named for the Pole who founded the Soviet secret police, Felix Dzerzhinsky. The walk takes you past the Bolshoi Theater and up to Detskiy Mir, the children's department store, both to your left as you approach the square.

Once in the square put your camera away, for that butterscotch building facing you, its seven stories looking for all the world like a fin-de-siècle hotel, is the infamous Lubyanka, the headquarters of the KGB, the secret police. It was behind those other walls that many of Stalin's most prominent victims died, and from cells within that tens of thousands have begun their dreaded trips to Siberia. Take a picture and you may get a guided tour.

(The Russians forbid photographing anything vaguely military — people in uniform, dams, railroad bridges, industrial enterprises and anything from helicopters or planes. Tourist sights like St. Basil's or the Kremlin are all right, as are general street scenes. But militiamen have been known to bar picture-taking in stores or markets, and one tourist lost his film when some soldiers wandered into his field of vision while he was snapping Lenin's Tomb.)

To end your walk on a less sinister note, bear to your right around the square and double back down 25th of October Street, which displays some interesting examples of 19th-century architecture, including, where the street joins Red Square, the building that houses the GUM, the department store. For shopping purposes you can safely skip the store, since there is rarely anything to attract the Western taste.

But if you've timed your walk just right you can stroll across the square and watch, on the stroke of the hour from the clock atop Spassky Gate, as the KGB changes guard at the entrance to the Lenin Mausoleum, marching marionette-like along the walkway that links the gate to the mausoleum. It is impressive, slightly menacing in its precision, and quintessentially Russian.

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The New York Times

Recreating Real Life Aboard a Square-Rigger

by James T. Yenckel

BOSTON — Three weeks before the mast: A group of Boston sailing buffs has chartered a Norwegian "tall ship" and is scheduling four three-week trips this summer in which the paying passengers will double as the working crew.

"It isn't a cruise ship," points out Harrold Ellerson of Square-Rig International of Boston, a nonprofit organization. "You peel potatoes, you swab decks, you stand watch, you climb the rigging." And for sleeping quarters, you get a bunk and a locker in a below-decks dorm.

The idea is to recreate life aboard one of the very few remaining ocean-going, square-rigged vessels. An experienced, full-time crew of 17 will be in charge and will offer instruction in sailing. On each trip, there will be space for 70 paying crew members. Passage is open to men and women 16 and over "in very good physical condition." Ellerson sees it as a family or father-son and mother-daughter adventure. A curtain divides the dorm into male-female quarters.

The ship is the 216-foot (65-meter) Sorlandet, built in 1927 in Norway, according to the Norwegian consulate, and used continuously

as a training vessel for the Norwegian Merchant Navy until 1939. Sunk in port in a World War II bombing attack, it was restored after the war as a private school, where over the years 6,000 Norwegian youngsters received their basic sea training. Fully recommissioned in the late 1970s, it is now owned by a Norwegian foundation.

It is the only operational, full-rigged ship available for crew participation by the general public, says Square-Rig International.

The first passage, beginning June 11, will be from Bermuda to Quebec, with a stop in Boston. The second trip will sail from Quebec up the Saint Lawrence Seaway and through the Great Lakes with stops at Chicago, Duluth, Minnesota, and Thunder Bay, Ontario. Third is a return passage to Quebec, and the fourth has not yet been set but probably will be down the New England coast.

The fee is \$70 a day per person, which includes all meals, but transportation to and from ports-of-call is extra. Passage must be booked for the full three weeks.

One thing to remember: If the captain sees you unloading the sails overhead, the tallest mast is 115 feet above the water.

Square-Rig International, 19 Milk Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109.
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Michael Ende Continued from page 7W

thing like an anthology of mythological themes.

So if a 10-year-old can sit back and drink in at face value such marvels as the swam-headed monster Uyuulala and the Sassafrasians who are born old and grow younger, everyone else is invited to unravel the allusions that Ende has so generously woven into his imaginings.

He can hardly wait. "The tower without a key comes out of Zan Buddhism," he says, rubbing his hands like a peddler unbundling his pack of exotic wares. For a long time, he continues, no one seemed to notice that the werewolf Gmork is tricked by the riddle Odysseus used on the Cyclops. Atreia, the wild greenskin boy who knows no writing, is the color negative of the noble Red Indian of German children's literature.

The excursions into art history are easier to unpack. "The magic forest of Perlin is Klee's 'Growth of the Night Plants,'" Ende says. "There's even one of my father's pictures, with a few Goyas and several Dalis." Lady Ayovla, sprouting with fruit, is out of the composite pictures of the seasons by the 16th-century Italian painter Arcimboldo. And, Ende says, triumphantly, there's even Tarzan, as Bastian swings through Perlin on lianas shrieking "I'm king of the jungle!"

Pouring his invention into "The Never-Ending Story," Ende deals in archetypes, in quests and saviors, in the giving of names, in giant glowing eggs. He admits that he often doesn't know where his images come from and says, somewhat coyly in the circumstances, that he is wary of venturing into psychology. "Poetry is not didactic, but an experience," he says.

However, he is categorical on one point. "A fantasy story must have rules and abide by them," he says. By his own criterion, Ende is,

perhaps at his most convincing in "Momo," which he says he wrote as a modern fairy story. "The stories the brothers Grimm collected were a medieval conception of reality: kings, princesses and wolves." Ende's version of the 20th century, seen from the inside, is the picture of a world in a twilight.

He started "Momo" with a discarded film treatment he had left in a drawer for six years, about a shabby little girl who comes from nowhere but is good at listening. "You could almost call her the soul of the world," he says. He got bogged down in the story until one morning, at breakfast, the book's central conceit came to him. The town is being invaded by insidious gray men, who convince everyone of the need to save time in a Time Bank. Only Momo can stop them, for how can the gray men get at someone who has all the time in the world?

The book has some delicious digs. Momo's friend, the innkeeper Nino, changes the name of his tavern to "Snappy Snacks"; the interminable fiber Guido becomes a media star; imprisoned in his Mercedes by a guard of mapping public-relations harpies and relishing the same old stories.

Ende covers his bets when "Momo" ends by saying that he got the story in a railway carriage from a stranger who says he "might equally well have told it as if it were still to happen." In the seething consumer temple under Karlsplatz, a few yards from Ende's hotel in Munich, the crowds are still scurrying from one overstuffed shop to another, in a pharmacy window looking out, under a portentous display on the dangers of salt, a clockwork owl is mechanically shaking its head.

Tblisi, Tashkent and Other Exotic Stops

by Serge Schmemmann

MOSCOW — The best reason for traveling to the Soviet Union is as simple and as complex as the one for climbing Mount Everest. Because it's there. It is, after all, a sixth of the globe's inhabited surface, the other military superpower, an entirely different social system, built on the relics of an empire whose spirit lingers in opera, ballet, palaces and museums.

Those who go to the Soviet Union rarely return home dissatisfied. To have visited it is to have glimpsed the other side, to have touched that mysterious land of Technicolor cathedrals and bare shops, of KGB tails and exquisite ballerinas, of incessant propaganda and vodka-fired bursts of intimacy. A visit may not be all leisure and fun, but approach it as an adventure, as an education.

Although Intourist, the government travel organization, has made great strides in improving tourist facilities and the variety of things to do, the Soviet state still regards the foreign tourist as a blend of spy and ideological agent — a person to be watched, carefully segregated from the citizenry and, to the extent possible, educated in the wonders of Socialist democracy and achievements.

Large tracts of Soviet territory are permanently closed to tourism, and many more can be closed at any time "for temporary reasons." Travel from place to place is strictly controlled, and a foreigner needs to have all travel plans registered in advance, down to the date, route and means of transport. Once in the Soviet Union, changing the route is difficult, so it's best to plan carefully. The tourist is effectively limited to the 140-odd cities and resorts on the Intourist list.

The number of Americans taking the plunge into Russia reached a peak of about 57,000 in 1979, and then sank and has since been hovering around 32,000 American tourists and 6,000 businessmen. But travelers from other countries have continued visiting at a rate of about 5 million a year, and Intourist has continued polishing its act.

Moscow and Leningrad are central to any itinerary. Moscow, the center of Holy Russia recast as the capital of the Soviet Union, with its imposing Kremlin, crooked 19th-century streets, seats of power and grand theaters, is a mandatory call. Leningrad, with its untamed Hermitage Museum, its baroque phos of a great and opulent empire reflected in canals and the Neva River, is the obvious complement. But beyond lie sights as varied as the land stretched across 11 time zones: Central Asia with its exotic Oriental monuments at Samarkand, Bukhara or Dushanbe; the Baltic republics with their cobblestoned streets and northern European charms; the battlements and impenetrable cupolas of ancient Russian cities like Vladimir, Suzdal and Novgorod.

There's more, though it may not be as easy to arrange as the well-trodden routes. Intourist can order up a bear hunt in Siberia or a shoot for mountain goat in Azerbaijan. Lovers of curative muds and sulfurous waters can join millions of comrades at the spas of the Black Sea or the northern Caucasus, and for about \$600 for the 24-day cure they take the same waters Pushkin and Lermontov once took.

There are also cruises on the Volga, with stops to swim, sightsee, or pick mushrooms. But Intourist provides the more exotic packages only for groups, and with the low level of American visitors, not many of the excursions

are being offered in the United States. But get a group together and try them. Prices are tailored to the size of the group and the class of accommodations.

The bold and skillful can challenge Soviet roads in personal or rented cars, armed with Intourist maps cleverly designed to foil potential invaders and spies by leaving out key intersections and playing havoc with scale. A Volga sedan with driver runs about \$10 an hour, while a Chkalov limousine with distinct echoes of the 1948 Packard costs \$18 an hour. Camping sites are separate and unequal, with foreigners gaining on luxuries but losing on gathering around the campfire with the locals.

Much of Siberia has been opened to tourism, and the trek is worth it if only to tell the folks back home you have been there — and back. A visit to Irkutsk, Siberia's oldest city, rich in carved wooden huts and the memories and scars of exiles, gold diggers and fugitives, can be combined with a few days on the Trans-Siberian Railroad, a slow ride across a land steeped more in legend than comforts.

Whatever the route, a visit can be made that much more profitable with some preparation. A good guidebook is essential. It also pays to bone up on the country and its people, and here the choices are infinite. For contemporary Soviet life, Hedrick Smith's "The Russians" is still the best basic introduction, though read it before coming — the Russians consider it subversive. Harrison Salisbury's "900 Days" is a moving account of Leningrad under siege, while Alexander Solzhenitsyn has chronicled the darker sides of Soviet history.

To steep oneself in the romance of old that still clings with such tenacity, the Russian classics are indispensable, and Intourist arranges some fascinating tours based on the lives and works of Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, Pushkin, Chekhov and others. For a lighter introduction, the Marquis de Custine's droll chronicle of travels through Russia in 1854, "Russia," is still valid today, while "The Big Red Train Ride" by Eric Newby is a witty and instructive account of a trip on the Trans-Siberian. A new anthology by Laurence Kelly, son of a former British Ambassador to the Soviet Union, offers some fascinating eyewitness accounts for the traveler to Leningrad. It's called "St. Petersburg: A Traveler's Companion."

It is a sad fact that the Soviet state remains profoundly suspicious of foreigners. It starts with the moment a fuzzy-cheeked soldier scrutinizes your passport with every sign that he is convinced it is a CIA forgery. Then the customs types flip suspiciously through anything with writing on it, confiscating "pornography" like Vogue or anti-Soviet "libel" like Time.

The attitude to take, if possible, is that paranoia is their problem, not yours. Simply try not to provoke officials by bringing in girly magazines, anti-Soviet tracts or stacks of blue jeans, and be sure you declare everything of value on entry, including gold wedding bands. Once in, don't load yourself up with too many rubles, since most hotels, shops, bars or transportation facilities are likely to accept only dollars or credit cards. If you must bring trinkets to leave as gifts, lapel pins are most popular, especially if they identify the United States or your home town.

It is an accepted rule in most of the world that the best bargains lie outside the tourist track. Not so in Russia. The best prices are in the Beriozkas, the hard-currency shops, and whatever bargains you find outside — icons, brass samovars, antique jewelry — cannot be exported, at least not without official permis-



Cleaning up Lenin's statue in Tashkent.

sion that is both difficult to arrange and exceedingly expensive.

Caviar, at about \$14 an ounce, and vodka, at \$12 a liter, are not quite the bargains they used to be, but still a mandatory purchase. Beyond that the Beriozkas offer a full range of tourist trinkets from carved dolls to miniature St. Basil's, brightly colored trays, bone carvings, shawls, records, books and latter-day electric samovars from about \$5 to \$200.

Little busts of Lenin go for \$6 or \$7.70, depending on the size, and embroidered Russian shirts cost \$47. A traditional souvenir is the small, lacquered boxes hand-painted in traditional Russian motifs. The finest come from the studios at Palekh and range from \$90 for a tiny box to \$600 for a jewelry case. The products of lesser studios start at \$30. Fur shawls, the classic winter headgear, cost from \$15 for lowly rabbit to over \$200 for fox.

The Beriozkas are part of an elaborate net of special stores, special hotels, special cars, special tours, special entrances and even special Russians that give visitors a distinct sense of being in a gilded cage. It's not an inconvenient one: The service and care are far above the general level in the Soviet Union, and access to tickets, transport and lodging would be impossible otherwise.

The service bureaus staffed by Intourist at all its hotels are good at organizing theater tickets, excursions, guides and transport. The guides are excellent — fluent in English, well versed in local history and lore, polite and on occasion charming. (Intourist hotel prices vary from about \$50 to \$100 and up a day for a double room. Meals at the hotels run from about \$11 to \$30, depending on how much caviar and crabmeat you want.)

But the monuments and theaters on the Intourist track are not the whole story, and here a visitor must show enterprise to break through the lavish hospitality and into the street. It's probably futile to ask your guide for a meeting with a "real Russian" — they may take it personally — and if they do set up a meeting with experts, farmers, workers or young people, it'll be with people accustomed to parrying your questions.

But there are things you can do. Skip a visit to yet another museum and go for a walk. Take the subway for 5 kopeks (7 cents) to the end of the line and walk around a new neigh-

borhood. Drop into a store. Go to a *rynok*, a farmer's market, where prices are set by demand, and check out the cost of an apple. Drop into a working church. If your plane departure is late, get out of the Intourist lounge with its hard-currency shop and hard-currency bar and stroll through the lounges where thousands of Russians are waiting, maybe for days. Instead of another group meal and another round of toasts to friendship, slip out and eat somewhere else.

You may not like it. The public cafeterias, or *stolovnyas*, are notoriously greasy, and the practice is to pick out your food from an illegible menu and pay in advance, probably about \$1.40, then wait in line with tin forks and wet plates for cold meat soaked in watery soup cream and a stack of black bread. But you may be lucky. Outside Russia proper the street food can be quite good, and the setting nice. In Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia cozy cafes are sprinkled through the restored old towns, and in Georgia sidewalk stands serve Turkish coffee and vanilla ice cream. In Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, good eating places are a tradition still unbowed, and the spicy dishes go well with the southern republic's wines, the finest in the Soviet Union.

In Siberia you might find a place where real Siberian *pelmeni* are made, small dumplings of beef, pork and spices cooked in bouillon and eaten with sour cream. Or Intourist might organize a picnic in the Taiga, the great forest of Siberia, where the feast may include paper-thin slices of fresh-frozen fish, mounds of forest berries, and a rich *ukha*, the great fish soup made by boiling and straining out two, even three, kettles of fish.

The repetitive rock that blares in Soviet restaurants is the bane of diners, but rather than condemning it, join the Russians on the dance floor. Any moves will do, and Russians favor a modified Moscow flop, with arms, shoulders, head and legs moving more or less at random. Invite anyone or dance alone.

A final word of advice. If the company is right, don't be shy about tying one on with cold vodka and a warm comrade. It might be aboard the Trans-Siberian, chugging slowly through the long evening across the endless plain, when your neighbor pops in with a slab of smoked fish, a bottle of chilly vodka, some rudimentary English, and lots of good will.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Leading U.S. Retailers Report March Sales Gained Over '82

NEW YORK (AP) — The top U.S. retail chains reported March sales gains Thursday — some of them considerable, compared with a year ago. Sears, Roebuck, the largest U.S. retailer, said sales of its merchandise group in the month that ended April 2 rose 5.8 percent, to \$1.85 billion, from a year earlier. Sears said sales in the first nine weeks of its fiscal year were up 5.2 percent, to \$3.13 billion.

The results included pre-Easter sales; a year ago, Easter was a week later and some selling was reflected in the April results. Most retailers' fiscal years begin in February.

K. Mart, the second-largest, said sales in the five weeks through March 30 rose 13.4 percent, to \$1.54 billion. In its first nine weeks it had an 11.4-percent sales gain, to \$2.81 billion. J.C. Penney and F.W. Woolworth also reported increased sales.

Regan Pushes for IMF Increase

WASHINGTON (Combined Dispatches) — Treasury Secretary Donald T. Regan urged swift approval Thursday of the administration's request for a \$5.8-billion increase in the U.S. quota to the International Monetary Fund, but also said it would be a mistake to reschedule loans to all countries with troubled economies.

Mr. Regan told the House subcommittee on international trade, investment and monetary policy that the increased U.S. quota for the IMF was important because the IMF "plays a crucial role in the solution to current debt and liquidity problems."

He said that, because many of the IMF loans are spent for goods made in the United States, "timely approval of these proposals is essential to our own economic interests." He also said the approval "would be a sign of confidence to other governments and to the public" and would "help to restore confidence about the risks to global recovery posed by the international debt problem."

Brazil Has Large Trade Surplus

BRASILIA (Reuters) — Brazil has announced a \$514-million trade surplus in March, its biggest monthly surplus in recent years. Finance Minister Emanoel Gama said the government was sticking to its target of a \$6-billion surplus for 1983.

Brazil has a surplus of \$844 million for the first quarter, compared with \$778 million for all of 1982. Mr. Gama said Wednesday the surplus was helped by falling oil prices — Brazil imports about two-thirds of its oil — and the 23-percent devaluation of the cruzeiro in February.

The \$6 billion target is the centerpiece of the government's plans for keeping up payments on its foreign debt, estimated unofficially by bankers at \$90 billion.

Hong Kong Dealer Asked to Quit

HONG KONG (Reuters) — The chairman of the Hong Kong Commodity Exchange, Peter Scales, has been asked to resign, the exchange said in a statement Friday. It said the vice chairman, Woo Hon Fai, would take over as acting chairman, but it gave no further details.

The request for Mr. Scales' resignation followed the revocation last week of his license as a dealer in securities. Hong Kong's Securities Commission accused him of misconduct in handling the proceeds of a share sale. He denied the charge.

U.K. Ford Workers End Strike

LIVERPOOL (Reuters) — Workers at Ford's Halewood automobile factory voted Thursday to end a monthlong strike over the disputed dismissal of an employee accused of vandalism. Ford says the walkout held up almost \$90 million (\$135 million) worth of production.

A mass meeting of the 4,600 assembly workers at the factory voted overwhelmingly to endorse an agreement negotiated by their union, a spokesman said. A further 4,100 workers had been laid off in the body plant because of the assembly line strike.

Under the agreement, the worker in question remains officially dismissed, but will be paid while three outsiders review Ford's case against him. The company claims he deliberately bent a small bracket in order to shirk work.

Company Notes

Sony has cut its sales forecast for this year to 5 or 6 percent from 10 percent because of difficult economic conditions, including competition and trade friction, the company's general manager, Sumio Sano, said in London.

NEC, the former Nippon Electric Co., will invest 100 billion yen (\$421.9 million) in fiscal 1983, which started April 1, almost unchanged from estimated spending in 1982.

TWA to Offer Cut-Rate Fare for One-Day, London-New York Jaunts

By Bob Hagertry
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Airlines are pushing harder to attract business travelers on the North Atlantic flights.

In the latest wrinkle, Trans World Airlines announced Thursday that it plans to offer cut-rate fares this summer for passengers who want to nip over to New York from London in the morning and head back in the evening.

Pan American World Airways also plans new bonuses for businessmen on the London-New York run, though a spokesman said Thursday that Pan Am would not resort to fare cuts.

The promotions are timed for spring and summer, when tourists on discount fares are plentiful but full-fare business travelers become scarce.

Under TWA's plan, to run from June 1 through Aug. 31, a round-

trip ticket would cost \$499, 14 percent higher than the one-way fare for business class. The passengers would leave London's Heathrow airport at 9:40 a.m. and land in New York at 12:15 p.m. They would return on one of three flights leaving New York in the evening.

The airline proposed the service to Britain's Civil Aviation Authority Thursday and expects approval next week. TWA has no plans for a

similar service for travelers wanting to fly from New York to London and back in one day; the airline figures that flight schedules on that route would make such a quick trip unattractive.

TWA's competitors suggested that the idea sounded exhausting in any case.

Diane Kane, a spokesman for British Airways, said some businessmen make such one-day round-trips on British Air's super-

sonic Concorde, which costs £2,363 round-trip. But, she said, few people would want to make the journey on a mere "subsonic" jet.

Jim Driscoll, TWA's reservations manager in London, argued that a businessman could squeeze in nine hours of work in New York under his airline's plan. He said it is hard to predict how much appeal the service will have but acknowledged, "We wouldn't estimate that it would be that tremendous."

The main idea, Mr. Driscoll said, is to draw attention to TWA's new morning flight out of London.

Pan American Airways, for its part, is talking up a new evening flight from London to New York, due to begin April 26. The flight will have larger-than-normal first-class and business-class sections.

Not wishing to be forgotten, British Airways boasts that its trans-Atlantic flights offer "the widest airline seat in the world."

U.S. Brokers Agree to Buy S&L

By Leonard Sloane
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Thomson McKimmon Inc., owner of a major brokerage firm, has agreed to buy a savings and loan association in Madison, Conn. The announcement came as the Reagan administration attempted to halt the movement of outsiders such as Thomson McKimmon into the banking industry.

Thomson McKimmon, parent of Thomson McKimmon Securities, a New York brokerage firm that trades in stocks, bonds, commodities and other financial instruments, said Wednesday that it had agreed in principle to pay \$10.8 million, or \$28.17 a share, for First Federal Savings and Loan Association in Madison.

The planned acquisition, which requires approval from the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the stockholders of First Federal, apparently would be the first acquisition by a brokerage firm of a savings and loan association, according to Perrin H. Long Jr., an analyst for Lipper Analytical Services.

Newton B. Schott Jr., secretary and general counsel of Thomson McKimmon Inc., said Wednesday: "We think there are a number of possible interesting interactions be-

tween the two firms. We think we can do a number of things for the savings and loan to help it to grow."

He indicated that Thomson McKimmon could steer business to its thrift unit in the form of mortgages and additional deposits from Thomson customers. Banks and thrifts have also become especially appealing to brokerage houses since federal regulators authorized them to offer money market deposit accounts with market interest rates in direct competition with money market funds. Many brokerage houses sponsor money market funds.

Mr. Schott cited Thomson McKimmon's ability to add deposits to the Connecticut savings and loan association as an example of this interaction. He said his firm could bring real estate opportunities and "some other products and services that are useful" to First Federal. "There seems to be a lot of intermingling of services at the present time," he added.

The Thomson McKimmon announcement appeared to go against the wishes of Treasury Secretary Donald T. Regan, who called on federal bank regulators Wednesday to impose an industry-wide regulatory moratorium on the

rapid restructuring of the financial industry.

One reason for the administration's concern is that a number of firms have reportedly been studying moves similar to Thomson McKimmon's. Mr. Regan believes Congress, not regulators, should decide which links between banks and nonbanking institutions should be approved. Brokerage firms such as Merrill Lynch and Prudential-Bache Securities have reportedly been studying moves into banking in order to offer customers additional financial services.

In recent months, a handful of banks have moved into brokerage services, two mutual funds have acquired or set up banks and insurance companies have gotten into the brokerage business. This activity has breached the traditional separation of banking from brokerage, investment banking and other financial services.

Early this year, for example, BankAmerica, parent of the Bank of America, purchased Charles Schwab, a major discount brokerage firm. FMR, which owns the Fidelity Group of mutual funds, established a new bank in New Hampshire, Fidelity Bank and Trust, that it expects to be operating in a few months.

U.S. Executives Urge Action on Yen-Dollar Rate

Reuters

WASHINGTON — Officials of the Business Roundtable, a council of leading U.S. corporate executives, urged Thursday that the U.S. and Japanese governments intervene to correct what they termed an imbalance in the yen-dollar exchange rate that they said unfairly favors Japanese trade.

The officials were testifying to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Also testifying to the committee Thursday, auditors from the congressional General Accounting Office said a study had found no evidence so far that Japan manipulated the exchange rate to increase its trade.

Frank Conahan, director of the GAO study, said the agency had found no Japanese manipulation to undervalue the yen and in fact had found indirect evidence that the Japanese government had intervened to strengthen the yen.

Lee Morgan, president of the troubled Caterpillar Tractor Co., speaking for the Business Roundtable, maintained that Japanese government policies do undervalue the yen and must be changed.

Interest Cuts in Sweden

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — The Swedish central bank announced Thursday that it was cutting its discount rate to 8.5 percent from 9 percent, effective Friday.

Rediffusion to Expand

Reuters

LONDON — Rediffusion said Thursday that it will extend its television and video leasing operations to the United States.

| Gold Options (prices in \$/oz.) | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| Price | May | Aug. | Nov. | |
| 435 | 14.00-14.03 | 14.00-14.03 | 14.00-14.03 | |
| 440 | 14.03-14.06 | 14.03-14.06 | 14.03-14.06 | |
| 445 | 14.06-14.09 | 14.06-14.09 | 14.06-14.09 | |
| 450 | 14.09-14.12 | 14.09-14.12 | 14.09-14.12 | |
| 455 | 14.12-14.15 | 14.12-14.15 | 14.12-14.15 | |
| 460 | 14.15-14.18 | 14.15-14.18 | 14.15-14.18 | |
| 465 | 14.18-14.21 | 14.18-14.21 | 14.18-14.21 | |
| 470 | 14.21-14.24 | 14.21-14.24 | 14.21-14.24 | |
| 475 | 14.24-14.27 | 14.24-14.27 | 14.24-14.27 | |
| 480 | 14.27-14.30 | 14.27-14.30 | 14.27-14.30 | |
| 485 | 14.30-14.33 | 14.30-14.33 | 14.30-14.33 | |
| 490 | 14.33-14.36 | 14.33-14.36 | 14.33-14.36 | |
| 495 | 14.36-14.39 | 14.36-14.39 | 14.36-14.39 | |
| 500 | 14.39-14.42 | 14.39-14.42 | 14.39-14.42 | |

Gold 47 10-49 10
Valencia White Weld S.A.
1, Quai de Mont-Sauve
1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland
Tel. 31 02 51 - Telex 28 305

U.S. Automakers Stuck in Sales Rut

(Continued from Page 11)

the second-highest unemployment rate in the country. Nothing motivates people to buy with a situation like that — rebates, discounts, nothing."

And even the employed are hesitating. Car prices continue to rise and many consumers are still suffering from "sticker shock." Last year, average car prices rose 11 percent, and there have been further increases this year.

Because purchases have been postponed, the average age of cars in use has increased to 7.2 years last year, from 5.7 years in 1974, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

Imports also continue to make inroads. Last year foreign cars took just under 30 percent of the market, up from 15.9 percent in 1974. And so far this year, the imports have increased their market share to 30.2 percent.

Domestic manufacturers and

their dealers have fought back with sales promotions. Some have come entirely out of the dealers' pockets; others, such as the 11.5-percent financing offered through the end of March, had been underwritten by the manufacturers. In February, new car loan rates averaged 14.8 percent at commercial banks, but have fallen a bit since then.

This month, General Motors, followed by Chrysler, Ford and American Motors, started to offer 9.9-percent financing on compact and subcompact cars. Sales of small cars have slowed considerably while those of larger cars have increased with the drop in gasoline prices, dealers said.

The recovery in the rest of the economy, along with the decline in gasoline prices, is generating optimism among dealers. There is talk of "pent-up" demand, a reference to the increasing number of old cars on the road. And manufacturers are scheduling a 13-percent pro-

duction increase, to 1.7 million cars, in this quarter, according to Ward's Automotive Reports, a trade publication.

Several dealers, especially those selling big cars, say that the situation has improved so dramatically in the last two months that they see little need for incentives.

Dick Gidron, of Dick Gidron Cadillac in New York, said his first-quarter business was up 20 percent, to more than 100 cars a month. "Normally January and February are our slowest months. With that kind of winter, spring should really be a bonanza," he said.

But after three years of false starts and broken promises many dealers were cautious. "The experts never knew what they're talking about; business may get pretty good but it's going to be gradual," said William G. Bruce, president of Bruce-Flournoy Ford, vowing to keep slim inventories.

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| | |
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| Sw. Francs | 40.53 |
| Fr. Francs | 116.45 |
| SDR's | 279.46 |

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December 31 Capital Funds US\$ Total Assets US\$
1982 US\$ 640 million 9,650 million

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INCORPORATED

April 6, 1983

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(Without Par Value)

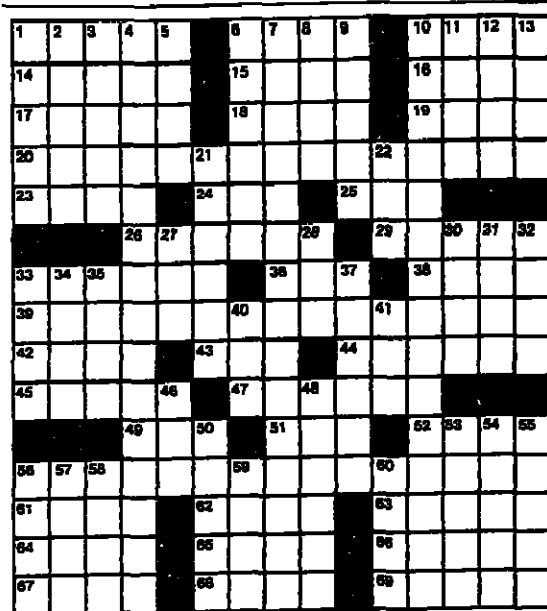
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INCORPORATED

April 6, 1983

CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Pare
 - 6 Wellaway
 - 10 Virtue
 - 14 Single-cell organism
 - 15 U.S. flight agency
 - 16 On — with
 - 17 Dunes or Rich
 - 18 Verdon
 - 19 Puccini heroine
 - 20 "Separate Tables" playwright
 - 23 Pillsbury, e.g.
 - 24 Mexican bravo
 - 25 Copy
 - 26 Traffic in holy things
 - 29 Pato dish
 - 33 Design
 - 36 Bee follower
 - 38 Plummer role
 - 39 Famed English illustrator
 - 42 Blackboard
 - 43 "— no onions nor garlic"
 - 44 Lacked
 - 45 Looks after
 - 47 Kind of Bible
 - 48 A.M.A. members
 - 51 Mass. capital
- DOWN**
- 2 — of the dog
 - 56 Wilson foe
 - 61 Zone
 - 62 Fourth person
 - 63 "— to the waters"
 - 64 Kasabian, for one
 - 65 Mandolin's ancestor
 - 66 Contradict
 - 67 Soccer's Edson
 - 68 Arantes do Nascimento
 - 69 Part of D.A.
 - 70 Put soldier in proper position
 - 1 N.Y. "Happy Warrior"
 - 2 Kilroy was here
 - 3 Shaggy
 - 4 An Oscar winner in 1977
 - 5 State of bliss
 - 6 Deputy in "Measure for Measure"
 - 7 Famed baritone: 1898-1980
 - 8 On the Coral
 - 9 Polar
 - 10 Mrs. Doubt's famous daughter
 - 11 Buy — in a pole
 - 12 Buddhist monk
 - 13 Hibernal
 - 21 "— to the waters"
 - 22 Tollgate rite
 - 27 Resident: Suffr
 - 28 Truly
 - 29 Blunt
 - 30 Kind of arch
 - 31 He played
 - 32 He played
 - 33 Mold
 - 34 Straightedge
 - 35 Black
 - 37 One of the
 - 40 Catch
 - 41 — volatile
 - 46 Peep
 - 48 Dunne's Mr.
 - 50 Valuable shell
 - 53 Anagram for
 - 54 Labrador
 - 55 Musical
 - 56 Fastener
 - 57 Gardner
 - 58 Glenda
 - 59 Touch upon
 - 60 Enrich

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BILLE

ASSOB

SOOJUY

NAITAT

Now arrange the colored letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoons.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: CROWN BUILT FIDDLE FLOVER

Answer: What she gave him when he asked whether he could see her home — A PICTURE OF IT

DENNIS THE MENACE



WEATHER

| EUROPE | | | | ASIA | | | |
|---------------|------|-----|--------|-----------|------|-----|--------|
| | HIGH | LOW | CLOUDS | | HIGH | LOW | CLOUDS |
| Algeria | 12 | 5 | 4 | Beijing | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| Amsterdam | 12 | 5 | 4 | Hong Kong | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| Antwerp | 12 | 5 | 4 | Kobe | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| Athens | 12 | 5 | 4 | New Delhi | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| Berlin | 12 | 5 | 4 | Seoul | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| Bombay | 12 | 5 | 4 | Singapore | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| Buenos Aires | 12 | 5 | 4 | Tokyo | 14 | 7 | 4 |
| Calcutta | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Canton | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Chennai | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Cebu | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Dacca | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Dahran | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Dar es Salaam | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Delhi | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Dhaka | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Durban | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Edinburgh | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Frankfurt | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Geneva | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Hankow | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Kobe | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| London | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Lyons | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Manila | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Medan | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Osaka | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Paris | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Peking | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Rangoon | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| San Francisco | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Shanghai | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Singapore | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Sourabaya | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Taipei | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Tientsin | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |
| Yokohama | 12 | 5 | 4 | | | | |

FRIDAY'S FORECAST: CHAMBERLAIN, FRANKIE: Rain, Temp. 12-15 (S-41). LONDON: Cloudy with showers, Temp. 10-15 (50-59). MADRID: Cloudy, Temp. 12-15 (54-59). NEW YORK: Partly cloudy, Temp. 22-25 (72-77). PARIS: Partly cloudy, Temp. 12-15 (54-59). ROME: Cloudy, Temp. 12-15 (54-59). TEL AVIV: Fair, Temp. 22-25 (72-77). ZURICH: Partly cloudy, Temp. 12-15 (54-59).

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PEANUTS

This is my report on Charles Dickens. I did not know Charles Dickens personally.

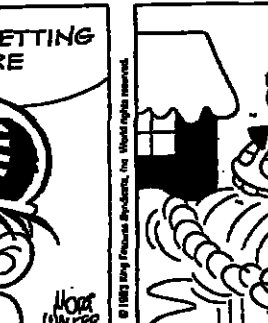
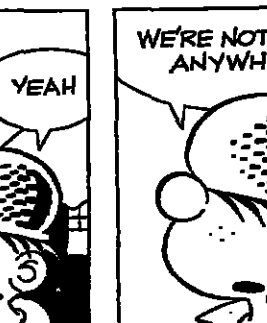
If I had known him personally, I would not have now and would not be writing this report.



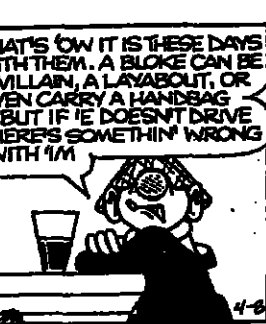
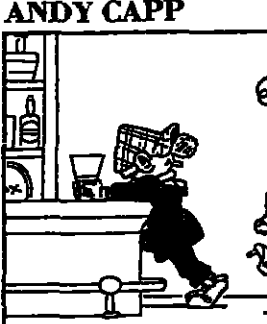
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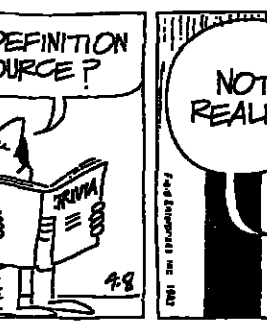
BEETLE BAILEY



ANDY CAPP



WIZARD of ID



REX MORGAN



GARFIELD



BOOKS

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

A Biography

By André Le Vor. Translated by William Byron. 393 pp. \$19.95.

Doubleday, Garden City, New York, N.Y. 11530.

Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani

THERE never was a good biography of a good novelist. F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote, "There couldn't be. He is too many people if he's any good." Certainly Fitzgerald, himself, has proved a daunting, if elusive, biographical subject — a subject, now so ensconced by legend that the actual lineaments of his life and personality have become metaphors for the America he romanticized.

Indeed, the mythic proportions of Fitzgerald's story have made him especially susceptible to the machinery of cliché. We are inclined to regard his life as one of those cautionary tales about the consequences of early success or as a parable about the United States' loss of innocence. It is a measure of André Le Vor's achievement that his new biography not only captures the resonance of Fitzgerald's life but also strips away the garlands to portray the actual man — this "spoiled priest," this "natural idealist" — with acuity and compassion.

Le Vor apparently spent 20 years working on the book, and the time clearly shows: having had access to material made available in recent years, he has augmented the admirable efforts of Fitzgerald's previous biographers Arthur Mizener and Andrew Turnbull. What's more, the skepticism a reader at first harbors — how can a Frenchman aspire to write the life of a writer so quintessentially American? — soon dissipates, for "F. Scott Fitzgerald" is a thoughtful and carefully shaped book. By contrast, it makes Matthew Bruccoli's recent biography look like a sickly mass of undigested facts.

To be sure, there are lapses — one unwieldy section on "The Great Gatsby" reads like a scholarly essay, shoehorned awkwardly into the text — but, for the most part, Le Vor has done a pleasing job of combining a narrative of the author's life with a critical assessment of his work. He puts the seriousness of Fitzgerald's accomplishment in perspective, and succinctly evokes the gaudy worlds he inhabited — Princeton, New York, Paris, and Hollywood — as well as the tempestuous relationships with Hemingway, Sara and Gerald Murphy, and his wife, the former Zelda Sayre.

Zelda, of course, was both "agent and victim of his own collapse," and Fitzgerald appropriated her character for fictional ends as freely as he did his own. At times it seems that his life actually merged, for the Fitzgeralds' daily existence frequently took on the heightened quality of fiction — a glittering fiction made up of a series of extravagant gestures. As they got older, however, the gestures that once seemed so charming and spontaneous — riding down Fifth Avenue on the roof of a taxi, spending half an hour revolving in a revolving door — grew increasingly pointless and sad, and beneath it all, Fitzgerald must have begun to question the merits of this self he had so energetically invented.

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Like Gatsby, in fact, he had effectively sprung "from his Platonic conception of himself." Through talent and willful social climbing, this son of a failed, Midwestern salesman, succeeded in marrying the belle of his dreams and taking New York — the very symbol of the fabulous East — by storm.

In retrospect, the celerity with which all this happened now seems remarkable indeed. At the age of 24, the author of "This Side of Paradise" was one of the most admired young men in New York; by 29, he was the toast of Paris and the Riviera; by 33, he had begun to mortgage his talent, and the dream was already behind him; by 40, he had lost his "capacity for hoping on the little roads that lead to Zelda's sanctum," and at 44, he was dead — tired, poor, and convinced that he was a failure.

As Le Vor points out, Fitzgerald was virtually incapable of writing about any hero other than himself, and his novels and short stories mirrored the swift, brief curve of his life. The charming, gifted young man of the early years gave way to older, sadder ones — the Dick Diver who batters away their creativity for bright and worthless bangles. It was as if by "recounting the failure of the man," Le Vor writes, that Fitzgerald was able "to confirm the strength of the writer."

Though he had long since decided that "life is essentially a cheat and its conditions those of defeat," Fitzgerald determined, in his last years, to climb back up "by the most laborious and uphill work." As portrayed by Le Vor, he was not one of those careless people like Daisy and Tom Buchanan, who smashed things up and retreated back into their money and their carelessness. For all the despair and self-pity of those last years, he continued to take care of the people who mattered — every month he paid the bills from Zelda's hospital and his daughter's college.

As "The Last Tycoon" testifies, Fitzgerald remained faithful to his artistic conscience, and, in the end, he also remained an unabashed romantic, dedicated to the "fundamental decency" of "my generation of radicals and breakers-down," he wrote his daughter, "never found anything to take the place of the old virtues of work and courage and the old graces of courtesy and politeness."

Michiko Kakutani is on the staff of The New York Times.

Shakespeare Footnote
The Associated Press
LONDON — The seven-acre site on which Shakespeare's Globe theater is believed to have stood was bought Wednesday by the London city council, which said it planned to build houses and small shops. The Greater London Council spent £2.5 million (about \$3.75 million) for the site, currently home to a vacant beer bottling plant, on the south bank of the Thames river in the working-class district of Southwark. Records of the "Lord Chamberlain's Men," the troupe for which William Shakespeare acted and wrote, show The Globe being erected in Southwark shortly after a previous theater used by the group was demolished in 1598. The Globe later burned down and the company moved to another theater in 1608.

BRIDGE
By Alan Truscott
ONE of the secrets of a winning defense, as demonstrated by the diagrammed deal, is to give the declarer an opportunity to do the wrong thing.

On the combined North-South cards, one would choose to play a part-score, but one can hardly blame North for driving to game. North decided that nine tricks in no-trump might be easier than more than 10 in hearts, and his decision almost brought him a big profit.

A minor-suit lead would have been devastating, but West led a low spade, the only way, as it happened, to give South a chance. The declarer won with the king in dummy, entered a hand with a heart, lead and played a spade. This established the spade queen as

South's ninth trick, so the only hope for the defense after taking the spade ace was to break through in clubs. A low club lead would have been ducked, so West shifted to the queen. South correctly allowed this to win, and East made a key play in his turn by dropping the jack. If he had played low, the defense would have had no chance.

When West continued with a low club, South had to guess. If East had begun with four clubs, it did not matter what South played. But if West had four clubs, it was vital to guess who held the ace.

South put up the king from dummy, which was right in theory, by a tiny margin, but wrong in practice. The defense took four club tricks together with the spade ace for down one.

This fine defensive effort

Neither side was vulnerable. The bid was: North 2♠, South 2♥, West 2♠, East 2♥. The play was: West led ♠4, North won, North led ♠K, South won, South led ♠Q, North won, North led ♠J, South won, South led ♠10, North won, North led ♠9, South won, South led ♠8, North won, North led ♠7, South won, South led ♠6, North won, North led ♠5, South won, South led ♠4, North won, North led ♠3, South won, South led ♠2, North won, North led ♠A, South won, South led ♠K, North won, North led ♠Q, South won, South led ♠J, North won, North led ♠10, South won, South led ♠9, North won, North led ♠8, South won, South led ♠7, North won, North led ♠6, South won, South led ♠5, North won, North led ♠4, South won, South led ♠3, North won, North led ♠2, South won, South led ♠A, North won, North led ♠K, South won, South led ♠Q, North won, North led ♠J, South won, South led ♠10, North won, North led ♠9, South won, South led ♠8, North won, North led ♠7, South won, South led ♠6, North won, North led ♠5, South won, South led ♠4, North won, North led ♠3, South won, South led ♠2, North won, North led ♠A, South won, South led ♠K, North won, North led ♠Q, South won, South led ♠J, North won, North led ♠10, South won, South led ♠9, North won, North led ♠8, South won, South led ♠7, North won, North led ♠6, South won, South led ♠5, North won, North led ♠4, South won, South led ♠3, North won, North led ♠2, South won, South led ♠A, North won, North led ♠K, South won, South led ♠Q, North won, North led ♠J, South won, South led ♠10, North won, North led ♠9, South won, South led ♠8, North won, North led ♠7, South won, South led ♠6, North won, North led ♠5, South won, South led ♠4, North won, North led ♠3, South won, South led ♠2, North won, North led ♠A, South won, South led ♠K, North won, North led ♠Q, South won, South led ♠J, North won, North led ♠10, South won, South led ♠9, North won, North led ♠8, South won, South led ♠7, North won, North led ♠6, South won, South led ♠5, North won, North led ♠4, South won, South led ♠3, North won, North led ♠2, South won, South led ♠A, North won, North led ♠K, South won, South led ♠Q, North won, North led ♠J, South won, South led ♠10, North won, North led ♠9, South won, South led ♠8, North won, North led ♠7, South won, South led ♠6, North won, North led ♠5, South won, South led ♠4, North won, North led ♠3, South won, South led ♠2, North won, North led ♠A, South won, South led ♠K, North won, North led ♠Q, South won, South led ♠J, North won, North led ♠10, South won, South led ♠9, North won, North led ♠8, South won, South led ♠7, North won, North led ♠6, South won, South led ♠5, North won, North led ♠4, South won, South led ♠3, North won, North led ♠2, South won, South led ♠A, North won, North led ♠K, South won, South led ♠Q, North won, North led ♠J, South won, South led ♠10, North won, North led ♠9, South won, South led ♠8, North won, North led ♠7, South won, South led ♠6, North won, North led ♠5, South won, South led ♠4, North won, North led ♠3, South won, South led ♠2, North won, North led ♠A, South won, South led ♠K, North won, North led ♠Q, South won, South led ♠J, North won, North led ♠10, South won, South led ♠9, North won, North led ♠8, South won, South led ♠7, North won, North led ♠6, South won, South led ♠5, North won, North led ♠4, South won, South led ♠3, North won, North led ♠2, South won, South led ♠A, North won, North led ♠K, South won, South led ♠Q, North won, North led ♠

